

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 25, 1975

10:00 o'clock a.m.

HARVEY CLAY LUTTRELL, Chairman

Wild Life and Fisheries
Building
400 Royal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,
Reporter



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Stenotypists

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P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . . The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was held on Tuesday, February 25, 1975, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. Harvey Clay Luttrell, Chairman, presiding.

PRESENT WERE:

HARVEY CLAY LUTTRELL, Chairman

DOYLE G. BERRY, Vice Chairman

J. BURTON ANGELLE, Director

MARC DUPUY, JR., Member

JERRY G. JONES, Member .

JEAN LAPEYRE, Member

JIMMIE THOMPSON, Member

DONALD WILLE, Member

A G E N D A

1. Approval of minutes of August 13 and December (5)
17, 1974. *and January 13, 1975.*

DR. LYLE ST. AMANT

2. Renewal of permit by Kitchen and Ostarly, (6)
Inc. to dredge fill material from the
Mississippi River at Miles 107 and 108



for a period of one year from March 25, 1975, at a royalty rate of five cents per cubic yard.

MR. HARRY SCHAFER

3. Discussion of Calcasieu Lake. (7)

MR. RICHARD YANCEY

4. Authorize signing of agreement to purchase 3,100 acres of Nederlands Corporation land in St. Charles Parish. (9)

MR. ALLAN ENSMINGER

5. Request of Sklar and Phillips Oil Company to install access road on State Lease No. 4080, Rockefeller Refuge. (10)
6. To construct duplicate of trapping camp at Rockefeller Headquarters for display. (13)

MR. JOE HERRING

7. Consideration of opening additional areas for turkey hunting seasons. (22)
8. Survey for possible use of rifles in turkey season. (41)
9. Consideration of establishment of trails on wildlife management areas. (67)
10. Resolution recognizing National Wildlife Week. (80)



OTHER BUSINESS

11. Discussion of possible mitigation plan for the Atchafalaya Basin (Mrs. Sandra Thompson). (83)
 12. Presentation concerning adjusted salaries and addition of two biologist classifications and rearrangement of other classifications (Mr. Johnnie Tarver). (100)
 13. Set dates for May Public Hearing in Alexandria for hunting and trapping seasons. (118)
- NOTE: The following matters not listed on the printed agenda were also considered:
- Discussion of Rockefeller and Marsh Island Trust Funds. (14)
 - Proposed request to Legislature for Constitutional amendment re Commission Funds. (16)
 - Clarification of Minutes re Rockefeller and Marsh Island leases. (20)
 - Motion to suspend rules. (51)
 - Use of Rifles in turkey season. (52)
 - Flyway progress report. (96)
 - Introduction of New Orleans Sportsmen's League officers. (57; 107)



Annual meeting, Louisiana Wildlife Federation.	(108)
Special meeting in March of Commission Board.	(112; 115)
EPA Hearing on DDT.	(114)
Raccoon hunting.	(118)
Extension of General Services Administration lease, Wild Life and Fisheries Building.	(126)
Lifetime privileges to Commission members.	(127)
Capital outlay budget request.	(131)
Spring Bayou Canal	(139)
Progress report re statewide quail develop- ment (Mr. Marc Dupuy, Jr.)	(143)
Adjournment.	(150)

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CHAIRMAN LUTTRELL: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. We have a quorum and we are ready to start with our program. I see some very welcome and distinguished guests in the audience, people that I am always happy to have with us. Mrs. Cook is back. Mrs. Sandra Thompson and her mother and I don't believe I know the other little lady. You are very welcome. I thought I saw Mr. Veillon. Yes, he is here. We are always glad to have you and if you have anything that you want to say, just hold up your hand and we will recognize you.

Now, we have as the first item on the agenda this morning the approval of the minutes of August 13 and December 17, 1974 and January 13, 1975. Do I have a motion?

MR. LAPEYRE: So move.

MR. JONES: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Lapeyre, seconded by Mr. Jones, that the minutes stand approved as read. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.



(No response)

So ordered.

Now, Dr. Lyle St. Amant told me that he wouldn't be here and he asked Mr. Schafer to handle his part. Mr. Schafer.

MR. HARRY SCHAFFER: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, we have a request for renewal of a permit by Kitchen and Ostarly to dredge fill material from the Mississippi River at Miles 107 and 108 for a period of one year. We have examined this request and find it meets all our requirements for the Commission and therefore we would recommend approval.

This would be for one year at the five cents per cubic yard rate.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the request. Do I have a motion?

MR. BERRY: So move.

MR. DUPUY: I will second it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Dupuy. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.



(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

BE IT RESOLVED that the
Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission does hereby grant permis-
sion to Kitchen and Ostarly, Inc.,
to dredge fill material from the
Mississippi River at Miles 107 and
108 AHP for a period of one year
from March 25, 1975, to March 25,
1976, at a royalty rate of five
cents per cubic yard.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right, Harry, you have
No. 3.

MR. SCHAFER: Mr. Chairman, as you know,
Act 510 passed by the 1974 Legislature authorized
the Commission to set the seasons and creel limits
in Calcasieu Lake. We are in the process of
getting up some recommendations to be used in the
interim while we have a study, a two-year study,



going on to make the final recommendations to comply with this Act.

We have on the Commission agenda for next month's meeting a request for the Board to take some action on rules and regulations for this Calcasieu Lake. It has been advertised in the Register and in the official journal for next month's meeting.

MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, I move that we placed on the agenda the adoption of the proposed rules that Mr. Schafer has at the next meeting. I might explain that the proposed rules are supposedly rules that have been formulated as a result of numerous meetings attended by our people and a group called Big Lake Sports Fishermen and another group of commercial fishermen and supposedly are rules that meet with their approval to be used in the interim until we conclude the study. I would move that we place that on the agenda for next month.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Wille. Those in favor, say aye.



IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

O. K., I believe we are ready now for Mr. Yancey.

MR. YANCEY: Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, for several years we have been interested in purchasing 3,100 acres of land on the western edge of Lake Cataouatche that is owned by the Nederlands Corporation. It juts up into the Commission-owned Salvador Wildlife Management Area.

We have a letter from Nederlands Corporation, offering this property to the Commission for a total price of \$390,000, which comes to about \$126 per acre. We would at this point like to recommend that the Commission authorize the Director to sign a formal agreement to sell with these landowners that would be drawn up by our Commission attorney. Of course, this agreement to sell would be contingent upon approval of the Division of Administration and the Governor's office, but at this time we would like to recommend that the



Commission authorize the Director to sign.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation of Mr. Yancey. Do I have a motion?

MR. BERRY: I so move.

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Thompson. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

MR. ENSMINGER: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Commission, first of all, of course, I would like to point out that this tract that Richard requested that you all approve to get into is a real fine fishing and waterfowl area that does join our Salvador tract, and I think this really will be a great addition to our piece of property out there.

The first item I have for your consideration is a request from Sklar & Phillips Oil Company to construct an access road on our Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge. This road will be an extension of an existing roadway that services State Lease



4080, which is owned by Amoco Petroleum Company. This wellsite will be a farmout from Amoco and we do have all the necessary letters of intention from Amoco, stating that they are farming this thing out to Sklar & Phillips.

We have examined the proposal that the company has made and find that this can be constructed inside one of our waterfowl impoundments without creating any problems. We will require that they install the necessary drainage culverts underneath the roadway to provide for drainage of the impoundment. Therefore, I would like to recommend that you approve the request of Sklar & Phillips to construct this access road in our impoundment on Rockefeller.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. Do we have any discussion? Do I have a motion?

MR. WILLE: I so move.

MR. BERRY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Wille, seconded by Mr. Berry. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.



THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

The ayes have it.

(The full text of the
resolution is here made
a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wild
Life and Fisheries Commission has
received a request from Tesoro Petroleum
Corporation and Sklar & Phillips Oil
Company for the construction of an
access road on State Lease 4080 at
Rockefeller Refuge, and

WHEREAS, this Corporation has
provided the Commission with a copy of
permission from Amoco Production Company
for the use of their existing roadway,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries
Commission does hereby grant permission to
Tesoro Petroleum Corporation and Sklar &
Phillips Oil Company to construct an
access road on State Lease 4080



approximately 2,472 feet in length, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that regulations be incorporated into the permit to protect the wildlife interest of Rockefeller Refuge, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director is hereby authorized to sign all documents pertaining to this matter.

MR. ENSMINGER: The next item I want to bring to your attention is the construction of a duplicate trapping camp near our headquarters facilities to Rockefeller Refuge.

We have a site there next to our display pens that would make an ideal site to construct a replica of the Louisiana trapping camp. This, of course, is an important integral part of our marsh community's history and I think it is something that would really be an addition from the tourist standpoint there at Grand Cheniere. We are getting an increasing number of people that stop at our display pens and I think that this trapping camp would make a very attractive tourist attraction



at our headquarters. We can build this, utilizing our refuge personnel there at Rockefeller.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard the recommendation. Do we have any discussion? Do I have a motion?

MR. JONES: I move.

MR. THOMPSON: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Thompson. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, while we have Mr. Ensminger, I would like to call to the attention of the Commission the fact that either last month or the month before we had some discussion about putting up for lease some areas of Marsh Island and Rockefeller for mineral development. The Mineral Board is going to receive bids on March 12. At the time we discussed it, we had a question about whether the Rockefeller Trust Fund and the Marsh Island Trust Fund were still valid,



in view of the new Constitution.

We asked the Attorney General for an opinion. We have not yet received the opinion. We were greatly concerned at the time and we still are that in the event that these trust funds are no longer valid that we may want to take another look at whether or not we want to lease the property.

Yesterday I talked with a representative from the Attorney General's Office and he assured me that we would have an opinion on those two questions by March 5. I would like to suggest to the Chairman that in the event that those opinions express some view that might place those two funds in jeopardy that we might ask that a special meeting of the Commission be held either on March 11 or 12 in conjunction with the Mineral Board meeting and we might want to take some action about recommending whether or not we would lease the property.

That's all I have to say.

THE CHAIRMAN: Instead of having a meeting of the entire Commission, could the Mineral Committee handle that, Jerry?

MR. JONES: I don't know. I was just



bringing it up. I don't know that it requires any action. You know, when you get the opinion, you could make the determination then how you want to handle it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. I believe that our committee could handle it or, if you prefer, I don't mind calling a special meeting in Baton Rouge, but I do think that you are right. You have a point that we do need to do that before -- and I would suggest, I don't think we need a motion, that we do nothing on the leasing of those sections until we do get an answer from the Attorney General on the disposition of the funds. Would that cover your question?

MR. JONES: Yes, fine.

MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I don't know if this is the time for me to bring it up, but yesterday at our informal meeting, the thought ran through my mind, and I think many of us when we were squabbling over how some monies were going to be spent, where it was going to be dedicated and how it was going to be taken from the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, and I am speaking of monies



generated by Wild Life and Fisheries, I mean from natural resources, from license fees, sportsmen, et cetera, and I would like to ask this Commission to join with me in a motion that we go on record and direct our personnel to prepare the necessary legislation to be one of, and I say that plurally, the first to go on record as asking the legislature to present to the people of the State of Louisiana a Constitutional amendment to this new monster that we have, Constitution, and put us back in our rightful place with the funds that we deserve and generate, not asking for anything from anyone, but only to keep those which are ours to begin with, and that our people, Mr. Yancey, the Director, Dr. St. Amant, et cetera, all work together to formulate just what should be done in only a fair vein. We don't want any more but we want as much as, and I hope that this Commission will go on and approve this motion that we so instruct the legislature to present to the people at the next election, at the proper time, a Constitutional amendment with these guidelines.

MR. JONES: I will second that.



THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Jones. Is there any discussion?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Is the word "instruct" proper, or "recommend"?

MR. THOMPSON: I want to instruct. I don't want to recommend anything. I want to instruct!

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: You want to instruct the legislature to do that?

MR. JONES: I think he meant instruct you all to recommend --

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: You are instructing us to recommend --

MR. THOMPSON: I want to instruct you all to prepare the proper form to be presented to the legislature --

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: To recommend to the legislature.

MR. THOMPSON: -- and to ask them -- you can't instruct them, but to ask them to adopt it to be presented as a Constitutional amendment at the proper time. I don't have those dates. In other words, I am not trying to tell anybody I can't



tell, but I think if we vote unanimously, that will mean that you will do.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Veillon, would you come up so we can get it on tape.

MR. EDGAR VEILLON: I would just like to say that the Louisiana Wildlife Federation would like to go on record as wholeheartedly supporting this action, and we will try to be of any help possible. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: We appreciate that, Mr. Veillon. One of the things that has us a little bit shaky is not knowing what will happen to the funds that the Commission generates as of its own. Of course, that is no one's fault right now, but I believe that Mr. Thompson has a motion that perhaps could clarify and would certainly benefit the Commission if passed.

Now we have a motion. Is there any more discussion? Does anyone care to discuss this? I have a motion and a second. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.



(No response)

So ordered.

Speaking of that reminded me, this may not be necessary, but speaking of the Rockefeller funds, I notice that in the minutes, and we maybe should have taken this up at the time, the motion by Mr. Jones to sign, agree, to those leases if the money went to us or to disagree or not approve them if it went against us, in the motion there was no reference made to who would sign, but in the resolution which was printed, which makes a difference in the minutes, our Director was instructed to sign. I would suggest -- we don't need a motion -- but I would suggest that, if you agree with it, Jerry, that we have those minutes corrected to include the permission for our Director to sign the papers, in your motion.

MR. JONES: Let me say one thing. I understand one of the problems is really on some of these leases we might not necessarily have that much prerogative, and that is the one on Rockefeller where we previously, the Mineral Board previously granted an exploration lease that provided



for selection by the applicant after he did his exploration work of putting up certain areas for lease, and we had no option to do it. The option was with them; we had to do it. I am not too sure what authority we have even at this stage of the game, whether or not we could influence the Mineral Board to reject the bids and whether it would be fair and all that. I don't know, but I am just saying that in the event that the Attorney General says that we no longer have those trust funds, I think we need to do something, whatever we can do, and if we can't do anything, we won't do anything. That was my only concern and I would move that the minutes of the previous meeting be corrected to reflect that the Director can execute all the documents.

THE CHAIRMAN: That is the only thing. I noticed that we had a conflict between the motion and the resolution. We usually empower this man to sign these things and we should correct the minutes so that the motion would include that power. We don't need a motion for that. That can be done very easily.



O. K., Joe.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The first item we have on the agenda is the recommendation for turkey seasons in quite a few areas in the State. In the November and January meetings of the Commission, they requested that the Game Division biologists reevaluate some of the turkey release areas over the state and see if we could come up with some maybe short turkey seasons.

I would like to just go over these here on the map where we can see them. The boundary descriptions would be pretty lengthy, and I would just like to ask that the boundaries be entered in the minutes rather than reading all those out. We are furnishing the press over here with copies of this so that they would have it there for simplicity, and anyone who would like just copies of that, we would go ahead and give them copies at this time, rather than describing all the boundaries.

This would include the Union Parish Wildlife Management Area for nine days, March 29-April 6; the Catahoula Wildlife Management Area, which is No. 2 on this map -- No. 1 would be the



Union Parish area, No. 2, the Catahoula Wildlife Management Area. No. 3 would be the Fort Polk Wildlife Management Area.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, we are not going to get that on tape. Pull it around, you can turn it around.

MR. HERRING: I think you can probably just see the numbers there, anyhow, and I will just give it here, Mr. Chairman. Fort Polk Wildlife Management Area, two days, March 29-30. Lutzer-Moore Wildlife Management Area, two days, March 29-30, 1975, and all of those will be by season permit. Then the Buckhorn, Mido and Omega area and the surrounding area right around there, where we can come up with road boundaries, which is Area No. 5 here, would be six days, March 29-30, April 5-6, April 12-13, 1975.

No. 6 would be the Winter Quarters area, Tensas Parish, for nine days, March 29-April 6, the area over on the Mississippi River. No. 7 would be the Saline Wildlife Management Area, four days, March 29-30 and April 5-6.

No. 8 would be the Pierre Part area down



in South Louisiana where we made some turkey releases, 16 days, March 15-30, 1975, and we do describe the boundaries and we will give that to the court reporter.

No. 9, Peason Ridge Wildlife Management Area, two days, March 29-30. Sabine Wildlife Management Area, two days, March 29-30.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, yesterday, I am sorry, you had that four days.

MR. HERRING: Which one?

THE CHAIRMAN: Sabine, four days.

MR. HERRING: I am sorry, you are right. That would be April 5 and 6, Mr. Chairman. Sabine Wildlife Management Area, four days, March 29-30, April 5-6, with a season permit.

No. 11 is what is already in our pamphlet, Area F, referred to as the Middle Fork area in Union Parish, and we would like to extend it into the Middle Ford area there, and this is for 23 days, March 29-April 20, 1975. Now all of these, the seasons would be for gobblers only.

One other recommendation during the turkey season there, on our Pearl River Wildlife



Management Area, during the turkey season we would not permit the taking of hogs during that time because turkey hunting is the type of sport where you have to call up the birds and people in there hunting hogs at this time would interfere tremendously with the turkey hunters, so I would like to recommend that to the Commission.

These areas that we are recommending are areas that have been stocked in previous years by the Commission and we have found that we can have a limited gobbler season on these areas and we will still have an adequate number of areas to trap from where we have released birds. We will still have at least 15 more areas that we will not have a season on, plus some of these areas that we will have seasons on, we have taken birds off this year and we will continue trapping on these areas until the season does open there. We feel like with this the removal of a few gobblers and then as many hens as we can from these areas, it will not have any detrimental effect on the areas as far as hunting, so we would so recommend that to the Commission, Mr. Chairman.



THE CHAIRMAN: All right. You have heard Joe's recommendation.

MR. HERRING: Just a minute. Did you have any question?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: These are additional areas that we are opening --

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir, these are --

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: -- or are these all the areas that will be open during the turkey season?

MR. HERRING: No, sir. These are in addition to what is already in the pamphlet there, with the exception of Area F, which is an extension of the boundary over there, adding a little bit more area to it.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: For the benefit of the press, we are adding an additional ten or eleven areas.

MR. HERRING: What we are actually adding is eleven areas, you might say. Ten areas and an addition to one, which would actually be eleven, you might say, new areas to hunt in this year, which will provide much more hunter opportunity to



the turkey hunters there. We feel it might even help spread some of them out there and provide better turkey hunting for them.

MR. DUPUY: Joe, are you still going to continue to trap in these new special areas right up until the season opens?

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir. We will be trapping up until the season opens there, or pretty close to it, give us time enough to get our bait out and everything so the area wouldn't be baited in, yes, sir. We have trapped, well, as of the end of last week, 67 birds and have stocked those in areas this year, and this is right now getting into our turkey trapping time.

MR. DUPUY: You are not going to decimate the population before the hunting season is opened, are you?

MR. HERRING: We haven't done it so far. Since you brought that up, I can use our Georgia-Pacific Wildlife Management Area as a very good example of this. In the past seven or eight years or maybe longer we have removed 420 birds from the Georgia-Pacific area for stocking in other parts



of the state and we still have not hurt the turkey hunting in this area, because mostly what we have taken off that area is gobblers, and hens, too, but one gobbler, when we release it, will take care of about four hens, and so with that ratio there we are not really affecting the turkey hunting in an area, so just using Georgia-Pacific as a very good example up there, we won't hurt the turkey population as far as our trapping and stocking other areas.

It kind of works the same way as our deer did years back. We feel like we can do the very same thing with our turkeys where we have suitable habitat that we did with deer. Twenty or twenty-five years ago there was only about twenty percent of this state open for deer hunting. Now it is reversed, and we feel like we can do the same thing with the turkey population.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, if you have baited areas in which you are going to trap, and those turkeys are accustomed to coming to the bait, shouldn't you stop that trapping far enough ahead so they wouldn't be shooting over a baited area?



MR. HERRING: Well, we will stop it soon enough, Mr. Chairman, but a lot of times you can't predict these birds. We found out after about the third day of baiting is when you had better trap. Those birds will come just a few days and then they will move on somewhere else. So we try to shoot our trap, which is the cannon type trap, on about the third day. For some reason they just quit coming to an area, find them another area, even though you have some bait there occasionally. But we will get the bait out, we will assure you of that. There won't be any area in there that we can't.

MR. DEWEESE KOSTMAYER: Mr. Chairman, may I make a suggestion to Joe?

THE CHAIRMAN: Come to the mike, please, Mr. Kostmayer.

MR. KOSTMAYER (New Orleans Sportsmen's League): I want to make a suggestion in the management of this Honey Island area, that we be real careful that the sportsmen know that the killing of hogs is prohibited, not just the hunting, because there are a lot of hogs over there killed



by accident, and we have got to be careful in the use of language here, that we don't just say "no hunting of hogs," because there are a lot of them that are not killed while the guys are hunting. If you make that abundantly clear, we won't have any problem.

The other thing is that there must be something wrong with these Georgia-Pacific gobblers if they can only take care of four hens. I have counted as many as 28 hens around my gobblers, and if Joe needs some new blood, we would be glad to accommodate him.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K., Joe.

MR. HERRING: Thank you for the suggestions on the reading. We will do that. Let me assure you on that ratio we use, we just find that that is a little better to insure our turkey population to build up quicker. We won't get any further than that, though.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Joe, is that going to be your recommendation?

MR. HERRING: That is the recommendation, yes, sir.



MR. THOMPSON: I want to amend your recommendations, if I may, to include that the Director have the authority to close the season in any area that, due to flooding, in his judgment should be closed, and also say that if this happens in the Saline Game Management Area that there be a moratorium on trapping of turkeys for two years in the Saline Game Management Area if the season is closed there.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right, we have an amendment --

MR. BERRY: I will second that.

THE CHAIRMAN: -- to Joe's recommendation. Those in favor of the amendment, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

MR. BERRY: Mr. Chairman, I would like to offer a resolution that Mr. Herring be instructed to stop trapping turkeys on these areas that we hunt at least two weeks prior to the hunting season.



THE CHAIRMAN: We have an amendment to the recommendation.

MR. JONES: Let me ask you something about that. As I understand, Joe, you said you can go in there and take those females out and that is not going to hurt anything.

MR. HERRING: That's right. We can --

MR. BERRY: You will scatter the hell out of those turkeys if he keeps trapping right up to the season.

MR. JONES: They can kill only the gobbler.

MR. HERRING: We have done this. We have trapped on these areas like Georgia-Pacific and some of the others and we have stopped in an adequate amount of time.

MR. BERRY: What do you call adequate? The day before, Joe?

MR. HERRING: No, we will get out of there about a week before the trapping season. We can tell more about what the vegetation is and how they have taken the bait and what-have-you in there when we should get out. If everything greens up like it is looking like right now and there is



adequate natural food, we may have some problems. We may not have them even taking the bait good, so it is just kind of a touch-and-go thing while you are on the spot there. But we will get out in time.

MR. THOMPSON: But, Joe, it is a biological fact that the turkeys don't take bait in the spring as soon as the crickets and grasshoppers and all are in the grass, they won't take corn. You can put it out there and they won't take it away.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Thompson, that is what has kind of hurt us in the last two years with our turkey trapping. We were really going, you might say, just gung-ho for a while and these last two winters have been very mild. With these mild winters that we have had with the natural vegetation coming out, the insects coming out, and different things, it has, you know, hurt our turkey trapping success there. We have tried a little bit of everything on there.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, to clear the deck, I have a motion to Joe's recommendation but



I didn't get a second. Does somebody want to second Mr. Berry's motion?

MR. THOMPSON: What? That they quit trapping two weeks before?

THE CHAIRMAN: Did you say two or three?

MR. THOMPSON: Two.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you second it?

MR. THOMPSON: Yes, I will second it.

THE CHAIRMAN: We have it moved by Mr. Berry and seconded that Joe be requested to stop his trapping two weeks before the opening of the season. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

IN UNISON: No.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Is that a request or a direction?

MR. BERRY: A direction.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: It is a direction, Mr. Berry?

MR. BERRY: Yes. Poll the Board, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. Mr. Jones,



how do you vote?

MR. JONES: I abstain.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Wille, how do you vote?

MR. WILLE: I say yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Thompson.

MR. THOMPSON: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Berry, how do you vote?

MR. BERRY: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Marc.

MR. DUPUY: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lapeyre.

MR. LAPEYRE: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Three to two. The ayes have it.

Now, we have to clear the record and we have not had a motion or a second and voted on No. 7, Joe's recommendation about the hunting season.

MR. THOMPSON: So move.

MR. JONES: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Thompson,



seconded by Mr. Jones. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

Finally cleared you, Joe. I don't know what condition you are in, though. I couldn't keep up with it.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, the Chief of Game Division of Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has recommended additional season for turkey hunting during the 1974-75 season, and

WHEREAS, these seasons have been recommended after a thorough field check and review by the technical staff, and

WHEREAS, the hunting of gobblers only will not affect the overall turkey population of an area, and

WHEREAS, the Commission will



still have adequate areas to trap turkey for restocking purposes,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission accept the seasons as recommended by the Game Division from findings of their technical staff.

(The areas and seasons referred to in the foregoing resolution are detailed below.)

1. Union Parish Wildlife Management Area.
Nine (9) days. March 29-April 6, 1975.
Season permit.
2. Catahoula Wildlife Management Area.
Two (2) days. March 29-30, 1975.
Season Permit.
3. Fort Polk Wildlife Management Area.
Two (2) days. March 29-30, 1975.
Season Permit.
4. Lutchter-Moore Wildlife Management Area.
Two (2) days. March 29-30, 1975.
Season Permit.



5. Buckhorn, Mido and Omega Hunting Club and surrounding area. North of Louisiana Highway 1 from intersection of U. S. Highway 167 to Louisiana Highway 8, East of Louisiana Highway 8 to Louisiana Highway 492, South of Louisiana Highway 492 to U. S. Highway 71, South of U. S. Highway 71 to U. S. Highway 167, West of U. S. Highway 167 to Louisiana Highway 1.
Six (6) days. March 29-30, April 5-6, and April 12-13, 1975.
6. Winter Quarters Hunting Club, Tensas Parish.
Nine (9) days. March 29-April 6, 1975.
That portion of Tensas Parish bounded on the north by the Mississippi River Levee, the east by Yucatan Lake and Yucatan Chute, the south by the Mississippi River, the west by the Mississippi River levee, the north to south from intersection



of Dubbison line to the Mississippi River.

7. Saline Wildlife Management Area.

Four (4) days. March 29-30 and April 5-6, 1975.

Season permit.

8. Pierre Part -- portions of Assumption, Iberville, Iberia and Ascension Parishes.

Sixteen (16) days. March 15-30, 1975.

Description as follows:

From Chacahoula west along Highway 20 to Highway 90 at Gibson, west along Highway 90 to Morgan City, then north along east Atchafalaya Basin Protection Levee to town of Pigeon, north and east along Highway 75 to Highway 1, south on Highway 1 to Highway 309, then south on Highway 309 to Chacahoula.

9. Peason Ridge Wildlife Management Area.

Two (2) days. March 29-30, 1975.

Season permit.



10. Sabine Wildlife Management Area.
Four (4) days. March 29-30, April
5-6, 1975.
Season Permit.
11. Area F -- Middle Fork area in Union
Parish be amended to read: "North
of Louisiana Highway 2 from Homer
to Middle Fork Bayou, north and
east of Middle Fork Bayou from
Louisiana Highway 2 to U. S.
Highway 167 from Middle Fork Bayou
to the Arkansas State Line."
Season in Area F and addition is
23 days, March 29-April 20, 1975.
All seasons are for gobblers only.
12. One other recommendation for the
turkey season pertains to Pearl
River Wildlife Management Area.
The recommendation is that hogs
cannot be taken during the turkey
season which is set for 37 days,
March 15-April 20, 1975.



THE CHAIRMAN: All right, No. 8.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The next item on the agenda pertains to the use of rifles in hunting turkeys. Last year the Commission did ask at the request of Mr. Kostmayer that we do survey the other states in the United States and see what some of their rules and regulations were pertaining to the hunting of turkeys with rifles.

We did correspond with all of the states. We had 49 replies, even from those who did not have hunting with rifles. Yesterday we did give copies of this report out to all the Commission members, the press, anyone else that was there that would like to have copies, just for their own analysis and review there. Just for simplicity, we broke it down into the southeastern states, which are more like Louisiana hunting here, and neighbor states have the same species of bird. Then on that we have five states that do not allow rifles. We had ten that did. As far as the crippling losses from all the states, there were different opinions there. Three states felt it was greater with rifles.



Three states felt it was less and three with no difference.

However, the comments from the states were that Alabama felt like the use of rifles destroyed the eating value of the bird and it promoted illegal hunting. It caused friction between the true turkey hunters and those with not enough initiative or skill developed to hunt turkeys. Maryland said that hens may not be readily identifiable at a rifle hunting range. Missouri felt that sex identification, too, may be difficult with the use of rifles, and in Virginia they came back with the fact that it often destroys the turkey carcass.

We had some opinions and even some input from turkey hunters in our own state pertaining to this, mostly on a quality type hunting. Most people feel like the use of shotguns is a quality type hunt and the use of rifles where you could shoot them at long distances would detract from this, where people would have to learn how to call the turkey and get it up in suitable range to shoot it. We did have some comments from people in



Florida parish area where they do have livestock -- it is a cattle part of the state, milk-producing -- and they felt like in that area the rifles would be a detriment in their farming activities. That was some of their comment.

We have had comments from both sides on that and it kind of boils down that shotgun type hunting is a quality type, more of a quality type hunting, and we are building up our turkey population in our state, and I think we have done good. I might say that at one time we did have rifle hunting in our state for a couple of seasons and the Commission saw fit to cut it out at that time. I think possibly Mr. Kostmayer or anyone else the Commission would like to call on might comment.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, the agenda doesn't deal with that today. It simply deals with the possibility of a new survey, survey of the possibility of the use of rifles in the turkey season. Mr. Wille.

MR. WILLE: Joe, I would like to direct you to get a hunter survey -- this is in the form of a motion -- direct you to get a hunter survey



of the state from all your hunters that we can possibly get by way of THE CONSERVATIONIST or by way of the mail program, and find out what the opinion is of the hunters as far as hunting turkey with a rifle.

I would like to put in a second motion that, since these people have come before us and I feel like they are conservation minded; I feel like the points that they made were very strong in favor of the rifle hunt, that it would not decimate the herd, is not dangerous -- in view of this I would like to make a second motion that we open the rifle season this year as an experiment to see if there is any danger at all to the herd.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Wille, we can't consider your second motion because the agenda doesn't ask for a vote on whether or not we will have a season, but I believe from the discussion that we had yesterday on this thing that we had agreed that Mr. Kostmayer and his group would work with Joe and our group on the wording and perhaps the --

MR. WILLE: That is correct, Mr. Chairman. That is correct that they would. It is also correct



that we can put in an emergency motion --

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, in the "Other Business," when we come to it.

O. K. Now what we are voting on right now, do we want to instruct Joe and his crew to make a survey and do we want them to invite Mr. Kostmayer and his group to work with them on the method of survey and the tallying of the survey.

MR. BERRY: Mr. Chairman, I will second Mr. Wille's first motion.

MR. THOMPSON: I would like to amend his motion to say "turkey hunters."

MR. WILLE: All right, that is fine.

THE CHAIRMAN: We have an amendment to the motion. Is there any more discussion?

MR. THOMPSON: Wait a minute. Have you got a second on my motion?

MR. BERRY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. I am ready for discussion now. We have the motion and the second.

MR. EDGAR VEILLON: Mr. Chairman, Louisiana Wildlife Federation would like to go on record as favoring the conclusion of this survey



and if the information developed does not prove that it will cause a decline in the population or in any way be detrimental to the species, we would ask that you seriously consider the use of rifles where permitted because in effect it would afford additional hunter opportunity, and this is what our organization stands for, as long as it is not detrimental. Thank you.

MR. BERRY: Mr. Veillon, the reason that I think Mr. Thompson and myself are opposed to rifle hunting at this particular time is because we do have a small herd of turkeys in Louisiana and we are trying to build them up, and you just said the key words, it will provide more hunter opportunity, and at this time we don't need a great hunter opportunity on our turkey herd. I think in a couple of years after our turkey herd gets up, like we have built our deer population up, it would be fine and proper, but I just think at this point in time it would be disastrous to our turkey herd.

THE CHAIRMAN: I recognize Mr. Kostmayer.

MR. KOSTMAYER: There seems to be a



misunderstanding. When we terminated our conversation yesterday, I was under the impression that this Commission was going to vote on the request that has been before it for a solid year. We want a show of hands on whether you would or wouldn't open the season now.

The second thing was that whether it was opened or not we agreed that we would like to have the benefit of this survey and we would like to cooperate in its production. It was suggested at that time that this survey track Mr. Thompson's recommendation that it be made from names selected of those holders of the big game tags so that it would reach turkey hunters. If we use THE CONSERVATIONIST magazine, we are going to end up with a mixed group and a response that is not going to be typical and factual. But we did think that you gentlemen would vote on this, and I repeat that we disagree with Joe Herring one hundred percent. The information we have we think is just as factual and we back it up with the recommendation from Dr. Glasgow, who asked me to quote him that there is no place for this limitation at this time in Louisiana.



whether you are restocking or what you are doing, because the kill is only eight percent with rifles across the nation.

We disagree with Joe's finding in the number of states. We find 34 states permit the use of rifles where there is a shootable population of turkeys, and we backed it up with documents, and we have been ready for six months.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kostmayer.

MR. KOSTMAYER: Yes, sir.

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me get this survey off and then --

MR. KOSTMAYER: Well, I didn't want to do any talking --

THE CHAIRMAN: I am going to give you a chance to talk when Mr. Wille makes his motion in "Other Business," and --

MR. KOSTMAYER: Excuse me.

THE CHAIRMAN: -- and that is when you will need that.

MR. KOSTMAYER: Shall I retire?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir.

MR. KOSTMAYER: Thank you.



THE CHAIRMAN: Now we have an amendment to the motion that we instruct Joe to make a survey by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Berry that the word "hunters" be changed to "turkey hunters". Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

The ayes have it.

Now I have a motion by Mr. Wille, seconded by Mr. Berry that we instruct Joe and our staff to make a survey of those people who want turkey rifle hunting in Louisiana, as amended. Those in favor, say aye.

MR. THOMPSON: Wait a minute. I don't understand that.

THE CHAIRMAN: You see, the motion originally was they be instructed to make a survey, possible survey, and Mr. Wille used the word "hunter" and you amended that to "turkey hunter". We have passed the amendment, which we have to do first. Now we are voting on the motion.

MR. THOMPSON: Well, as I understand the



motion, it is to direct the personnel of Wild Life and Fisheries to conduct a survey of turkey hunters as to their choice and their findings of hunting turkeys with a rifle or without a rifle, and I also understand -- maybe you didn't say this -- that the Department may possibly use an independent firm, I believe in North or South Carolina.

MR. HERRING: I was fixing to ask, Mr. Thompson, if we could use Dr. Don Haynes and get him to come in, if this is all right with Kostmayer and everyone else, and he will come to Louisiana. We do have a contract of the southeastern states, as many other states do, to work up what would be the correct formula for this in trying to determine through their statistical section, and I would like to ask that.

MR. BERRY: Joe, we just asked you to run a survey. Don't complicate it; just do it.

MR. HERRING: All right.

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, before you go further with that, this is Mr. Wille's motion. I will have to ask Mr. Wille will he accept this man's recommendation.



MR. WILLE: Certainly.

THE CHAIRMAN: Then that clears it. Any more discussion?

MR. BERRY: Call for the question.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. The question has been called for. Discussion is ended. Those in favor of the motion to instruct our staff to make a survey, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

The ayes have it. So ordered.

MR. WILLE: Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion that we suspend the rules of order so that I could make my second motion.

MR. JONES: I will second that.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K. I don't know why you boys have to get so complicated. I don't believe you want to go home.

MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, let me just say one thing. The reason I say that is Mr. Kostmayer is here and they are interested in it and if we are going to put it down at the end of the agenda, they



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may have something else they want to do. While we are talking about turkeys, why don't we get it out of the way?

THE CHAIRMAN: Now this is a motion that is not debatable.

MR. JONES: O. K. I am not debating. I am just talking.

THE CHAIRMAN: It just isn't debatable. You have heard the motion that we suspend the rules. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

The ayes have it.

O. K. Now we are ready for your motion.

MR. WILLE: O. K. My motion is that we grant permission until we complete the survey of this season as an experimental type situation to open the turkey season for rifles.

MR. JONES: I am going to tell you right now I am going to vote no, but I think the matter ought to be decided and get it over with, so I am going to second the motion.



13 THE CHAIRMAN: All right, it has been moved and seconded and we are ready for discussion. Mr. Kostmayer. By way of explanation, Mr. Kostmayer, I wasn't cutting you off a while ago. I was just getting you to save for the time to use it.

MR. KOSTMAYER: I appreciate the necessities for procedure, sir. I took no offense to that at all.

I simply want to say that I thought yesterday we had resolved this issue that we would vote on this thing today and give a show of hands. Our people want to know how each individual member of this Board stands.

Secondly, as always, we will be glad to cooperate with Joe Herring in any survey that he makes. We tried to get him to make this a year ago. We have been fighting this for nine years, formally for one. As I say, and I am repeating myself and I am sorry, we have got biologists, we have got sportsmen's opinions, and our attorney tells us it will stand up in court. The survey was made by professionals of the National Rifle Association. The biologists are professionals. A former director



here, Dr. Glasgow. I don't know what more evidence we can generate. We take a chance here in the survey that the hunter opinion will turn against us, but because we had a 96 percent response from holders of big game tags, we feel certain that this survey is going to be an education to Joe Herring and you all.

We think two things. No. 1, we have got possibly 25,000 turkey hunters in this state. There is a whole lot more interest than has been evident up to now. No. 2, we will gamble that our poll is factual and that you are going to get a response in favor of a choice. We are not asking you to direct people to use a rifle. We simply want them to take the one off the rack that he feels like using, depending on how thick it is or what the conditions are.

Excuse me for being so lengthy, but if you will give us a show of hands, we will certainly work with you people down the road on any surveys that you might bring up.

MR. JONES: May I ask a question, please?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir.



MR. JONES: I thought that 96 percent was 96 percent of the half, of the 42 percent or something like that --

MR. KOSTMAYER: We ran a poll that --

MR. JONES: Wait, wait.

MR. KOSTMAYER: Excuse me.

MR. JONES: -- but these were not of big game license holders, were they?

MR. KOSTMAYER: By coincidence, every one that responded had a big game license. That's why we asked, "Do you hunt deer?"

MR. JONES: O. K., O. K.

MR. KOSTMAYER: We polled 888. We had 445 respond, it was almost 50 percent, and those were all big game license holders. Every one of them hunted deer and turkey, and 96 percent of these people are Louisiana sportsmen and indicated that they wanted you people to give them the right to use either a shotgun or a rifle.

If you gentlemen will vote on this, we in turn will work with you on this survey or anything else that comes up. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: We will vote on it. Mr.



Kostmayer, while you are there, I want to ask a question.

MR. KOSTMAYER: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Just a second. Let me ask my question and then I will recognize you. You state that there are 25,000 turkey hunters in the state of Louisiana. I wonder if the turkey population exceeds 25,000.

MR. KOSTMAYER: Let me say this to you, sir. I am not a biologist, but I have a great respect for the Wildlife Society. Now in their surveys which they have made across the nation, it has been demonstrated that you never take over eight percent of your total turkey population during the spring months. As a matter of fact, they recommend that hens be cropped, and certainly we need that in Alabama. I can show you 40 or 50 hens and one morning I saw as many as 87. It defied count in some of the lespedeza fields. So you get an imbalance. This thing, and there is reference on it all over the United States on it, this thing is not a factor. The legal kill doesn't begin to approach the 50 percent natural mortality



17- you have got. This is the basis on which we have been trying to talk to Joe. It would be an education for you gentlemen and it would help you manage this thing in which we are deeply interested if you could understand what a nominal factor the spring kill is. Now people fought that for years and still do in some states, just as they make the dove a songbird and the quail a songbird in some others.

Any other questions, gentlemen?

THE CHAIRMAN: I recognize the gentleman here.

MR. KOSTMAYER: Let me introduce this gentleman to you. We have high hopes for him. This is Lloyd Moreau, the new president of the New Orleans Sportsmen's League.

MR. LLOYD MOREAU: In reference to the rifle decimating the turkey population, I think the Commission has a right to close the season at any time that they think the herd is being depleted, so as far as that, it is allowed to take what we can of the game and still leave enough breeding stock. Thank you.



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THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, any other discussion? Mr. Thompson.

MR. THOMPSON: I have to rise to the defense of the proposition of defeating the motion. I think that it has already been borne out here that this state is not properly stocked or that there are areas in this state that do not have a turkey population that are able to support a turkey population, which bears out the fact that our state is still on the minus side as far as turkeys are concerned, and there is a great need for restocking this state and bringing it to its full capacity.

I would like to point out to this Commission that in the states that I know of, which are most of them, where they do have a rifle season, that they do have a carrying capacity of turkeys on the land that they are shooting with rifles, and probably I would have no objection if we reach that point in this state where every area is stocked and where we have no longer a need for a surplus bird other than for the hunter effort and the hunter's bag. I probably would go along with



the rifles, but at the present time I can envision and I know it to be a fact -- I do not have a survey by the National Rifle Association; I have made my personal survey of many turkey hunters -- that if we allow the use of rifles, there will be many more turkeys killed than there have been killed in the past, with certainly not the quality hunting that turkey hunting is and is known to be the world over. I think it has been proven by all of the national sports writers, the national turkey hunters, that this is a quality hunt and probably the epitome of all hunting as far as going into the woods and using a hunter's skill to bag the game.

I won't go into the fact that the turkey has the keenest hearing, the keenest eyesight, of any animal in the woods, and if it could smell, we probably would have enough turkeys to shoot them with cannons, but this is a fact. So, I would say we have a moratorium at least until we get our survey in, that we don't turn the apple cart over when we don't even know what the situation is, or until we get our state completely and entirely



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stocked.

In reference to DeWeese Kostmayer's report of eight percent turkey kill, may I point out to this Commission that I would like for you to defeat this motion of shooting the turkeys with rifles simply from a public relations standpoint, because right here at this Commission -- and Joe Herring is sitting here and everyone in the biological department can tell you that the number of deer hunters who kill in excess of five and this year it was increased to six deer is less than a percent, but yet we have not an open season or a no-limit on deer simply because of public opinion. I think this should go right along with the same, since the deer hunting is less than one percent and DeWeese is up to eight percent, and how in the world can we justify shooting with rifles an eight percent kill when we don't justify a no-limit on deer that has less than a percent, a fraction of a percent.

So, I am going to request that you defeat this motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jones.



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MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, I am not an authority on turkey hunting, and to prove that to you, I am starting my sixth year and I have yet to kill a turkey. So, in order to answer the question Mr. Kostmayer wants us to answer, I have got to rely upon what Joe tells me. Now, when you convince Joe in that survey that he is wrong, I will assure you, I will look at it again. Our biologists tell us it is not the thing to do, DeWeese, and that is my sole reason, because I don't have any independent knowledge about turkey hunting. I respect your opinion but I have got to respect what Joe and them say.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do we have any other discussion?

MR. LAPEYRE: I would like to echo what Mr. Jones said. That is precisely my position, since I have no personal knowledge of it, and I feel I just have to go along with the professional people in the department.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, in these extremely controversial matters, I would appreciate it if you would let me recognize the speaker before



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you speak. Marc.

MR. DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, just for the record, since apparently all the Commission members are stating pretty much their feelings, my feeling is that since Louisiana has no fall season and has no all-sex season and that we are trapping birds in some areas and moving them to other areas there must be a biological reason, and my understanding and impression is that we do not have an overabundance of turkeys, whether they are herds or flocks, and maybe we are trying to raise the wrong things, trying to call them herds instead of flocks.

Regardless of the numbers of birds that we do have, apparently we don't have a huntable population that could stand an additional decimation, if you will, although I am not satisfied that rifle hunting is all that detrimental to the turkey population. At the same time I feel that until we do have a huntable population that could withstand the additional hunter opportunity, I think that we ought to go ahead with a continuing shotgun only season. That is my feeling.



23 THE CHAIRMAN: Any other discussion?

Mr. Wille.

MR. WILLE: Mr. Chairman, with all due respect to Joe, and I do respect Joe and his opinion very much, I feel like the man with the rifle is just as much a sportsman as the man with the shotgun when he goes out. I feel that these gentlemen who came before the Board with their request have a perfectly legitimate reason for requesting the rifles. My only suggestion was, in the form of a motion, that is, that we try it for one season and see what the results are.

Now, I am sure, as the gentleman said, we can close that season any time that we thought that the turkeys were being slaughtered or we were taking too many. It is strictly a trial type of situation and if the survey comes back with an overwhelming response to rifles or against rifles, then I think we should proceed with the wishes of the hunter, because, as a matter of fact, our job is to set policies for the benefit of the hunters within this state. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do we have any other



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discussion?

MR. THOMPSON: I would like to rebut that just one minute. I would like to say that I have talked to a great number of turkey hunters, and I certainly don't want this to be misconstrued that I am saying that the National Rifle Association didn't take an honest survey, but I have yet to find one turkey hunter that I know, and I can't tell you the number, but it would be large, who received one of these surveys. I certainly did not. I didn't answer it, and I don't know of any turkey hunter who did answer this survey.

MR. WILLE: They culled you out.

MR. THOMPSON: They had to cull me out. They knew I would vote against it.

I certainly hope you will go along at least in waiting until your survey comes in. There is no possible way for this Commission during a season to come in and say they are killing too many turkeys or to know beyond a shadow of a doubt that too many turkeys are being killed, let's close the season. That is one thing that can't be done physically or in any other situation.



MR. JONES: I call for the question.

MR. BERRY: Mr. Thompson, may I say this. I am not sure whether you are right or wrong, I don't know --

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Berry, I am sorry but Mr. Jones has called for the question.

MR. BERRY: Let it happen!

THE CHAIRMAN: And so I have one thing to do, to sort of move this thing along. I will ask Mr. Wille, who made the original motion, will you accept Mr. Kostmayer's recommendation that the vote be by a show of hands? Do you accept that?

MR. WILLE: Certainly. I think we are going to have to have a head count, anyway.

THE CHAIRMAN: Then we won't have to have another motion and second and talk about it some more.

MR. BERRY: No discussion, Mr. Chairman. We have called for the question.

THE CHAIRMAN: This is a matter of information. I am not discussing the question at all. Those in favor of the motion, which was to have an experimental season for this one year only --



you know what you are voting on -- that we have an experimental season of shooting turkeys with rifles for this one season only, those in favor, vote as your name is called. Mr. Jones.

MR. JONES: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Show of hands. Mr. Wille.

MR. WILLE: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Thompson.

MR. THOMPSON: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Berry.

MR. BERRY: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lapeyre.

MR. LAPEYRE: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dupuy.

MR. DUPUY: No.

THE CHAIRMAN: And the Chair votes no.
The vote, six to one. The motion is lost.

All right. We are ready to go to the next number, Joe.

MR. BERRY: Mr. Yancey, you have been awful quiet. I'll bet that is about to choke you.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mr. Herring, before you start Item No. 9, I have been asked by the



Chairman to read a letter from Governor Edwin Edwards, written on January 23, 1975, to the Chairman, with copies to the Director and all members of the Commission. It reads:

"Dear Clay:

"By Executive Order No. 68, dated June 20, 1974, I created the Louisiana Trails Advisory Council, whose purpose is to generate and demonstrate public support for a Louisiana Trails System.

"Since that date more than 500 dedicated Louisianans, including state legislators and agency heads, have been appointed to the Council and have joined together in an all-out effort to make the goals of the Council a reality.

"Private landowners and public entities such as the Corps of Engineers and Levee Districts have pledged the use of their lands for potential trails. I am aware of the contributions already made by your Board toward the establishment of a statewide trails system and take this



opportunity to commend you and your agency on behalf of the Louisiana Trails Advisory Council.

"In an effort to demonstrate the Administration's support of this program, I am asking that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission at its next meeting endorse the establishment of trails on all wildlife management areas where feasible and when it is not in conflict with the primary purpose of the area. Your assistance and cooperation in this regard will be greatly appreciated.

"Cordially,

"Edwin Edwards,

"Governor, State of Louisiana."

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Angelle. Mrs. Thompson, I believe you have a resolution to ask for adoption.

MRS. SANDRA THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Sandra Thompson, Coordinator of the Louisiana Trails Council. It is a pleasure to be here today.



Louisiana is blessed with so many natural resources, from our rolling hills, our forests, our bayous and lakes, and so many of these could be used for trails because in the past few years as so many people have been crowded into our cities, more and more of them are taking to the outdoors for recreation and enjoyment, and trails are a very popular means of fulfilling this need in the past few years.

Since June 28 of last year, when the Executive Order was signed, we have received more and more volunteer effort. Some 500 citizens are working in their local communities and areas in establishing trails. We have had federal agencies and private landowners to offer their lands for trails.

Since the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has always led the state in providing outdoor recreation for its citizens, we again ask you to take the lead by endorsing the establishment of trails on all wildlife management areas not in conflict with hunting seasons and other purposes. Of course, it is understood that these trails would



only require simple maintenance. Of course, the resolution just tracks the wording of Governor Edwards' letter.

I have a representative of Task Force One here who would like to say a few words on behalf of the Sierra Club and Audubon Society, and maybe he can answer your question about the putting up of signs in some areas.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mrs. Thompson, for the benefit of the record, I think you would need to read the resolution.

MRS. THOMPSON: It says the same thing the letter says.

THE CHAIRMAN: We need it in the record.

MRS. THOMPSON: Before he talks?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, ma'am.

MRS. THOMPSON: O. K. (Reading)

"WHEREAS, by Executive Order No. 68, dated June 28, 1974, Governor Edwards created the Louisiana Trails Advisory Council whose purpose is to generate and demonstrate public support for a Louisiana Trails System, and



"WHEREAS, since that date more than 500 dedicated Louisianans, including state legislators and agency heads, have been appointed to the Council and have joined together in an all-out effort to make the goals of the Council a reality, and

"WHEREAS, private landowners and public entities such as the Corps of Engineers and Levee Districts have pledged the use of their lands for potential trails,

"NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in an effort to demonstrate the Administration's support of this program, the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission at its regular meeting of February 25, 1975, does hereby go on record as endorsing the establishment of trails on all wildlife management areas where feasible and when it is not in conflict with the primary purpose of the area. It is understood



that these trails will only require simple maintenance."

THE CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Thompson, do you recommend the adoption of this resolution?

MRS. THOMPSON: Yes, I do.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the resolution and recommendation. Those in favor, say aye.

MR. JONES: You don't have a motion by a member of the Commission to adopt the resolution, do you?

MR. BERRY: I so move.

MR. JONES: I second.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. It has been moved and seconded, moved by Mr. Berry, seconded by Mr. Jones, that we adopt this resolution. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

The ayes have it.

Now, young man, you have something to discuss? State your name, please, sir.

MR. WILLIAM FONTENOT: My name is William



Fontenot, and I am the chairman of the Delta Chapter of the Sierra Club, with members all over Louisiana and Mississippi. I have also been asked to represent the Orleans Audubon Society today.

We have worked with the Trails Council and members of our organizations are on the Trails Council, and we would like to work with the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission in establishing some of these trails where feasible on the management areas. We have recommended as one trail an area that is used by members of the Sierra Club on canoeing trips in the Pearl River Management Area. I was talking to Sandra earlier and she was saying there was some question that these trails might not be used enough, but I can assure you gentlemen that from the use that I have seen on places like the Tangipahoa River that once an area is known to the public, how they can get in and out of an area, for use of boating, hiking or backpacking or whatever it might be, that the area will be greatly used. We would like to go on record as supporting your adoption of this and also offering our help in any way as far as putting up markers on these



trails or maintaining the trails in any way that we can, because we use these areas. We have outings such as clean-up outings where we go out and pick up beer cans and whatever else might be littering these areas.

We would also like to recommend that you consider Robert Murray as representative from the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission on the State Trails Council.

MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, I have something to say. I am sort of concerned because we are going to have some of these trails in some of these areas where we have all these alligators and the Audubon Society is opposed to us harvesting these 'gators. I think the Director had better be very careful about where we let people get into, because I know some areas are going to be pretty darned dangerous for people to walk around in because of the overpopulation of alligators.

Now, this gentleman represents the Audubon Society and I think they are one of those that opposed the harvest, so I think the Director ought to be mighty careful where we let people go since



we can't harvest those alligators. They might bite them.

MR. BERRY: I agree with you, Mr. Jones. They might eat them up!

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Great words of wisdom, Mr. Jones!

MR. FONTENOT: May I make a comment on that, sir? I am not too certain about the Audubon Society's position on the alligator season.

MR. JONES: I am.

MR. FONTENOT: I realize that, but I don't think there is a fear from people who are using trails and from the hunters and fishermen being gobbled up alive when they are out duck hunting or goose hunting.

MR. BERRY: By God, it's rough on dogs. Just ask your counterpart, Jesse Fontenot.

MR. FONTENOT: I thank you for that concern, and I think we should also consider the possibility of snakebite and that sort of thing.

MR. JONES: I am not being facetious, and the reason I say that is, and I am not fussing at you, but, you know, the Audubon Society and the



Sierra Club come to this Commission to ask us to do things to help people be with Nature. One of the jobs that we have is to properly manage what is out there, and when our people, with all of their expertise, can say, you know, we ought to manage the alligator population by harvest, and then a group like the Audubon Society, who does not possess that expertise, can say, no, you shouldn't do it, that is the only reason I am saying that.

We will be glad to cooperate with you in any way, but I think it ought to be reciprocal. When these people that know something about alligators say we ought to harvest them, and then are told by the Audubon Society, no, we are against that, how can we cooperate and reciprocate?

MR. BERRY: Mr. Jones, well said.

MR. FONTENOT: I know that is a very soft spot in that area, but thank you, very much.

THE CHAIRMAN: You didn't ask that we take any action on this. You simply offer your services to help with the trails.

MR. FONTENOT: Yes, sir, and I recommend that you also adopt the support of the Trails



Council and the Governor's recommendation.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, we have already adopted that. Thank you.

O. K., now we are down to No. 10.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to add that we have been in --

THE CHAIRMAN: Joe, don't you think that perhaps you might want to comment on the trails. Do you have any comments?

MR. HERRING: Yes, we have been in the trails business a little bit since 1961. We did establish some trails on Union Parish Wildlife Management Area, our Red Dirt Wildlife Management Area, Jackson-Bienville Wildlife Management Area and some other areas back then. After this letter did come out, the Commission did request that we go back and re-evaluate some of these and look into them, and we have. Probably the reason at that time when we established trails on some of our wildlife management areas back in the early '60's, 1961, it was just a little bit ahead of its time and we did not get real good utilization out of them, so they more or less fell by the wayside.



With this interest again coming into it, we are real happy with it. We will be glad to work with everyone on this, and especially Mr. Fontenot, thank you for your comments, and Mrs. Thompson there. All of our areas we can establish some type of trail on them, for hiking, for picnicking, for photography on them, sightseeing, boat trips. We have about three areas that would lend themselves very well to a boat-type trail on the area. We can do this. In fact, we would just like to have our wildlife management areas where we can open them up for the citizenry of our state, more or less for observation or relaxation or just the esthetic beauty of these areas, because we do have it on these areas.

(Whereupon, Mr. Herring presented the following resolution.)

WHEREAS, at the last meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission it was requested that the Game Division review the past and present plans for trails on the Commission operated



Wildlife Management Areas, and

WHEREAS, this was in accordance with Executive Order No. 68, personnel of the Game Division would review past and present trail plans, and

WHEREAS, trails are not new to the overall management plan of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Game Management Areas as the Commission established this program in 1961 on the Union Parish, Red Dirt, Jackson Bienville and other Wildlife Management Areas, and

WHEREAS, we were probably a few years ahead of our time in planning, these areas received very little or no utilization. Since they received little or no utilization they were not kept up and eventually deteriorated, and

WHEREAS, the trails that we had were narrow, walking trails and the width of a bushhog which was used for maintenance and had woodduck boxes, squirrel



boxes, vegetative identification and other wildlife items along the trails for interest,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED after discussion that all of the Commission's Wildlife Management Areas are open to the public for trail purposes, hiking, picnicking, photography, sightseeing, boating, when available, or other outdoor oriented recreational activities on a twelve-month basis free to the user, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED WE encourage the citizenry of our State to utilize these areas for outdoor observation, relaxation and esthetic values.

MR. BERRY: Joe, you might also mark Highway 90 from over about Raceland to over about Jeanerette. That is just a trail through there. Just mark that while you are marking. (Laughter)

MR. WILLE: Joe, while you are on the subject, I noticed you mentioned that the trails on the Jackson-Bienville game reserve --

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir.



MR. WILLE: As long as you are going to do a little work to make these trails passable by walking, I wish you would do some work down there just to make them passable with a four-wheel vehicle without a winch.

MR. BERRY: We feel the same way about Highway 90!

MR. HERRING: No comment on that.

THE CHAIRMAN: And you could fix one on Saline Management Area, too.

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir. We did go through all of our districts and out of every district we had one to two wildlife management areas that we could go into it. If you would like hear those, I could give them to you at this time.

THE CHAIRMAN: No, I think we have covered that.

MR. HERRING: There were areas in each district.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think we have covered the trails situation very well, Joe. We do need to move along. No. 10.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, the next item



that we have, each year the National Wildlife Federation, along with its supporting state Federation organizations in all fifty states, proclaim a week in March as National Wildlife Week.

The National Wildlife Federation this year has set March 16-22, 1975 as National Wildlife Week. The theme this year is we feel very appropriate. It is probably one of the best themes that the national and state Federations have come up with. It is, "We Care about Wildlife Habitat". It is very appropriate at this time for some of the activities that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission does have going on. I think our land acquisition program falls very well into this. The new "Oaks for Wildlife" program that we have is very much in line with this. Our quail and farm game program, which has been approved, is very much in line with this, plus much of the habitat work that we are doing on all of the state wildlife management areas and refuges along the coastal area there.

Today we do have Mr. Edgar Veillon who is here with the President of the State Wildlife



Federation. He is in his second year as president of that organization and he is here representing the state Federation pertaining to Wildlife Week. It has been very active in the state this year as well as in past years.

I would like to recommend to the Commission then that a resolution be adopted in support of National Wildlife Week March 16-22, 1975.

THE CHAIRMAN: You have heard the recommendation. Do I have a motion?

MR. JONES: I so move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Wille. Any discussion? Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered, Joe.

MR. HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)



WHEREAS, the wildlife bestowed by Nature upon our world has ever been a source of beauty, inspiration and enjoyment to the people of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, this same wildlife brings many other benefits to man and his civilization; and

WHEREAS, many forms of wildlife are prospering, many others need our help; and

WHEREAS, citizen concern is always needed to foster and perpetuate conditions enhancing survival of wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of wildlife habitat is the single most important factor in wildlife conservation; and

WHEREAS, the period March 16-22, 1975, has been designated as a special time for expression of concern for wildlife habitat;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED



that the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission hereby joins the National Wildlife Federation in proclaiming March 16-22, 1975, as National Wildlife Week, urging our citizenry to affirm with the Federation that "We Care about Wildlife Habitat."

THE CHAIRMAN: Now, No. 11 under Other Business, Mrs. Thompson, did you want to bring up that today?

MRS. THOMPSON: Yes, I do.

THE CHAIRMAN: O. K.

MRS. THOMPSON: Thank you very much. I am not asking for any kind of authorization or anything today but I would like to bring you up to date on what has transpired since my last meeting here.

In talking about Louisiana's natural resources, of course, I guess the Atchafalaya Basin is the most valuable natural resource that we have in this state, and the Corps does have a plan to enlarge the main channel of the Atchafalaya River to provide for flood control and protection of the



low-lying areas. Many people in this state are concerned that the Atcahfalaya will not be protected at the same time that this channelization is going on, so therefore I appeared before your Commission last month to ask you to work with us. As a result of the committee that you appointed last month, you authorized Mr. Burt Angelle to meet with Colonel Heiberg, the District Engineer in New Orleans, which he did last Thursday along with Mr. Yancey and Mr. Green and Mr. Tayber from the Interior Department, and Mr. Macell, who is the counsel for the National Wildlife Federation.

I would like to read into the record a few of the points that were discussed at that meeting very briefly. Colonel Heiberg stated that he had concluded that a deeper channel is needed both for flood control and for protection of the environment. He is confident that this conclusion will be confirmed by the results of the upcoming flow sedimentation model which is going on now.

Colonel Heiberg also recognized that the center channel project would almost certainly become bogged down if the Corps tried to move ahead now



with its EIS without first getting the support of the federal family, which, of course, is the Interior Department and EPA.

Colonel Heiberg also stated that he is open to proposals for fish and wildlife planning, be they structural or non-structural, such as acquisition of comprehensive easements, and this is great for us to hear. If such measures, of course, can be supported properly before Congress, and that is why we need to get a lot of people in the state involved.

He asked for the help of the fish and wildlife interests in developing and supporting such plans. Both Mr. Angelle and Mr. Green expressed the view that a fish and wildlife plan must be made an integral part of the Corps' project. We cannot have channelization now and mitigation ten years from now. Mr. Green stated that we need a formal commitment from the Corps that will incorporate a fish and wildlife plan into the project. He suggested that formal authorization be sought from Congress for such a plan.

Mr. Angelle and Mr. Yancey expressed



their concern that as a result of past and proposed Corps action large portions of the Basin would soon be cleared and developed by private landowners, thus destroying existing fish and wildlife resources. They stressed the need to acquire comprehensive easements in the lower Basin that would preclude land clearing and development.

Colonel Heiberg stated that the Corps, too, would like to preclude development in the lower Basin. He pointed out that such development is inconsistent with the operation of a floodway, that once development begins, the Corps is subjected to significant pressures to keep an area dry. He and Mr. Chaffee stated that easements more comprehensive than those in the Morganza Floodway would have to be acquired in the lower Basin to preclude development. Those easements would have to give the Corps complete control over what is done on the surface of the land, leaving only the mineral rights to the landowners. He observed that Congress would have to authorize the Corps to acquire such easements.

Mr. Angelle and Mr. Yancey expressed the



view that structural measures would have to be taken in addition to fee or easement acquisitions in order to preserve the existing fish and wildlife resources in the Basin. Such structural measures should attempt to keep the Basin wet for as many years as possible. Mr. Macell then asked how the National Wildlife Federation could best cooperate with the Corps to help it incorporate a fish and wildlife plan into its draft EIS. Colonel Heiberg suggested that we use the steering groups to develop a unified approach to the Atchafalaya problem. He stated that he would call a meeting of these groups sometime in March.

In connection with this, and so that all interests would be represented and working with the steering committee and with the Corps of Engineers and with the Governor's approval, we have appointed a mitigation committee: Mr. J. Burton Angelle, Director of Wild Life and Fisheries Commission; Mr. Hugh Brown, President of Williams, Inc., representing the landowners; Mayor Brownell of Morgan City; Mr. Fred Ellis, Assistant Attorney General; Mr. Charles Fryling of Baton Rouge, who will repre-



sent environmentalists; Colonel Heiberg, District Engineer; and Mr. Edgar Veillon, President of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation. Our first meeting will be scheduled March 4 at 10:30 in Baton Rouge. We intend to start working on this so that we can achieve the maximum results for the Atchafalaya Basin and for Louisiana as a whole.

I just wanted to keep you informed of what is happening and hope that when we do come up with a mitigation plan that we can come back before you and ask for your endorsement of it. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you for the report, Mrs. Thompson. Do we have any other discussion?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mr. Yancey just pointed out an apparent mistake in Item No. 6, where Mr. Macell states that those easements would have to give the Corps complete control over what is done on the surface of the land, leaving only the mineral rights to the landowners. It was not discussed in that light. In fact, we both, Mr. Yancey and I, suggested that the mineral rights definitely will remain with the landowners and



that we also allow the landowner to harvest his timber on a selective method of harvesting and that he would also have the right to do whatever he wanted with his land as far as who utilized it as far as hunting and fishing, that we are not restricting the landowner to complete takeover of the Atchafalaya Basin, as some of these plans were in the past few years.

MRS. THOMPSON: Right. In other words --

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: He states it just a little erroneously here as to just how it was approached.

MRS. THOMPSON: Right. In other words, this is not the final plan, but these are just some of the thoughts that were brought out at the meeting and really demonstrated I think the close cooperation between the Corps and landowners and sportsmen, and I think we are off to a real good start. Any other questions? Thank you very much and thank you for endorsing our trails program.

MR. THOMPSON: I would like to make a statement. I don't know if many of you are aware of the fact but the Corps of Engineers at present



have the authority to take over and use any land that they so desire, as they so see fit, if it was a navigable stream designated by a mean high water mark. This is a recent law that has been passed in Congress, giving them this full authority, and I would like to call it to your attention just for the knowledge that it contains. If, for instance, and you brought it to my attention or refreshed my memory in the Atchafalaya Basin, if the mean high water mark, the Atchafalaya River, which of course was navigable, but any stream in this state or any body of water that was navigable at any time, and by navigable it has been defined as where an eight-inch log could float, then it was navigable. Now we have been under the assumption that it had to be navigable by boat, Indian boats in the years past, but with this new law that Congress has given the Corps of Engineers, you are absolutely at their mercy.

As an example, if you had built a house in a backwater area that is now protected by levee that at one time had a mean high water mark over that land, the Corps can come in and request -- not



request, demand and remove your house, at no cost to the Corps of Engineers. To me this is a law that is on the books that Congress has placed that was certainly in error, certainly not good for the country as a whole, and certainly I don't think that even the Corps of Engineers wants the power that this law has given to them. I certainly hope that you all will all be made cognizant by my remarks of this law and that possibly somewhere down the line that this be changed.

This thing has far-reaching effects if those persons who are in the Corps so decide to use them. It is very, very dangerous, worse than any of our rattlesnakes.

MR. BERRY: Are you trying to start a contest, Mr. Thompson?

MR. THOMPSON: No, I just thought I would tell you all about it, so somebody else could worry besides me.

THE CHAIRMAN: Someone may want to look that up. That is the Land Use Law of 1895 by Congress. Like Jimmie says, the Corps of Engineers can move every building in New Orleans, as the law



stands now, at your expense. Just tell you to move it. The high water mark, and we know that the Mississippi at one time before we had levees, covered all this area, and they have the right to decide the land use of any area covered by the high water mark under the Land Use Act of 1895.

MRS. THOMPSON: I would like to make a comment, Mr. Chairman. I think this was probably brought about by some abuse in the use of flood plains, where some people went in and built their homes and the Corps would advise them that if they ever needed to use it -- for example, on a levee, I think in the Bayou Benoit area, for example -- built homes and the Corps advised them if they ever needed to enlarge the levee that they would have to move and they recently did advise them that they needed to enlarge the levee and there is a lot of resistance to that. They probably are overreacting now by trying to take too much control of some areas, but I think there is some workable way of doing it in between the extremes, for sure. Thank you very much.

MR. THOMPSON: Well, I have analyzed it



a little bit differently. Certainly they could never make the City of New Orleans move. I mean, you and I know that that is not even possible with all the laws in the world they have got on the books. But I do say this. In certain instances where there is a conflict between private people or Wild Life and Fisheries or any entity that would be in conflict with the Corps, that they have got a trump. They can lay it on you any time they want to trump your cards. All they have got to do is, there it is, and you have got to do, and I don't like it.

THE CHAIRMAN: May I correct Jimmie? That was an overstatement, true enough, but it is the law and it could be done according to the law if, you know, you were able to enforce it.

MR. THOMPSON: May I say something else while I am at it? I would like to request, and probably I should have done this yesterday, and I think maybe I did mention it to Burt, I am in a quandary on one thing. We are about to get some land, and certainly I want it and will accept it, for mitigated damages, but as I understand it, it



reads "mitigated damages for the backwater area," and I have reference to the Saline area. I am under the impression that we are due mitigated damages for our eleven or twelve thousand acres of land that was taken for a canal that runs from Catahoula Lake into Black River, not for backwater flood control, which is the way it states, but for the replacement of the land that they took for a navigation channel on the Black River above Jonesville. Someone in this Commission might answer if this is one and the same or if it is two different mitigated settlements. Dick, you look like you are coming to attention.

MR. BERRY: He's been awful quiet today, hasn't he?

MR. YANCEY: The only mitigation that is due now in connection with the overall Red River backwater project is the fact that the Corps is more or less obligated to purchase 12,800 acres of land as mitigation for the damages resulting from the entire Red River backwater flood control project. One of the features of this was the diversion canal that conveys water out of Catahoula



Lake to Black River. The 12,800 acres was not to mitigate that feature of the project. It was to mitigate the damages incurred from the overall Red River flood control project.

MR. THOMPSON: Well, let me ask you a question. Are we due any mitigated damages for them taking and digging a hole in our land, mine and yours?

MR. YANCEY: A portion of this 12,800 acres would be in compensation for that damage.

MR. THOMPSON: Do you know how many acres they took from us?

MR. YANCEY: That canal is about ten miles long, and you know what the width of it is; including spoil bank areas it would be probably five or six hundred feet wide.

MR. THOMPSON: More than that.

MR. YANCEY: It may be a little more than that. But the 12,800 acres is to compensate in part for that damage from the canal. This is what we have been told on numerous occasions.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dick.

MR. THOMPSON: Well, that's about -- I



can't do that mentally, but that's approximately how many acres? How many acres would that be in that thing, Dick? Let's see. If it is five miles long, and I would say --

MR. YANCEY: I would have to guess it would be somewhere around 800 to 1,000 acres, just as an off-the-cuff guess. We could compute it very easily.

MR. THOMPSON: While you are at the mike, and if the Chairman would so desire, would you care to give us a progress report on the duck situation in reference to the Federal Wildlife boys, in reference to our flyway council that we may decide to go into or may accept?

MR. YANCEY: O. K. In reference, actually the Commission's request to be transferred over to the Central Flyway, I won't go into the background of that because I don't think it is necessary. This thing has been going on for about six or seven years. It is about to reach a conclusion. We all know that we have a written commitment that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service will reach a final determination on what they are going to do by June 15, 1975,



as to whether they will in fact transfer all or part of Louisiana into the Central Flyway as the state has requested and as has been proven to be biologically sound by studies that were made by Frank Belrose from Illinois and Dr. Hayne from North Carolina.

Now we have had meetings with representatives from the Fish and Wildlife Service in recent weeks. We get the feeling that some favorable action is going to be taken. We also get the feeling that if some action is taken, it is probably going to result in a part of the state going into the Central Flyway. We do not get the impression -- now I am just telling you about my impressions, and Burt has been in these meetings and he may want to fill in on anything I may leave out -- but the impression we get is that if a change is made, it is probably going to result in a portion of Louisiana going over to the Central Flyway and not the entire state. We know from the studies that Frank Belrose made that the ducks that use the northeastern part of Louisiana and the Mississippi flood plain area are almost 100 percent Mississippi Flyway



ducks, whereas the ducks that migrate into the state from the Central Flyway use the western half of the state and come on into the entire coastal region.

We get the feeling that if a change is going to be made, it is probably going to result in the state being divided, with a part of the state being left in the Mississippi Flyway and maybe about two-thirds of the state going into the Central Flyway. We do not see that as any big disadvantage. There are about three or four states that are presently split into two separate flyways, and in those states the commissions are authorized to set different hunting season dates in the portions of their states that lie in both flyways.

As we all know, we have a tremendous amount of controversy here in Louisiana any time we want to set duck season dates. The northeastern part of the state consistently wants the latest straight hunting season that they can get whereas down in the marsh country and over in the western part of the state, around Shreveport, the hunters over there want some early hunting in November to



take advantage of these transient ducks that go through the state and winter south of here. We don't necessarily see this as any big disadvantage if the state is divided.

However, the Commission's action has been to request the Fish and Wildlife Service to transfer the entire state to the Central Flyway, and we might have to come back to you when we really get down to the final discussions on this thing and have that request modified somewhat so that it would be in line with whatever the final decision would be on the part of the Fish and Wildlife Service. That is about all that I have at this point. Maybe Burt could add something. He has been in on all of these meetings also.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: I don't have anything to add, Dick, unless there are any questions from the Commission members. As you know, the people from Washington asked that they meet with us on a staff level to discuss those possibilities, the number of ideas that were advanced, and then we were informed that they would be back in touch with us within five to six weeks, which would be much



in time for them to advance a suggestion to this Commission for their consideration.

MR. DUPUY: I might comment that while in St. Louis at the International Wildlife Symposium, myself and Mr. Mike Cook interviewed and talked with Lynn Greenwalt, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, with regard to the progress that he is making on establishing the guidelines and getting information which would enable the Department of Interior to come out with recommendations for different flyway changes. He said positively and definitely that the Department of the Interior would have the information necessary soon, very soon, and certainly in time for it to be cleared through the Federal Register and to have it in time for the establishment of this year's seasons.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other questions? We are ready for No. 12. Is Mr. Tarver here?

MR. JOHNNIE TARVER: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, Commission Members, guests, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to address you. I am appearing here on behalf of Louisiana Wildlife Biologists Associa-



tion as Secretary-Treasurer. I will give you a little brief history of the organization. It dates back to the mid-Fifties and it is composed of 150 professional biologists employed by various institutions, industries, state and federal government. In fact, over 50 percent of the membership is presently employed by the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and a large percentage of those members who are not presently employees were at one time. As a point, we have several Chiefs and one Assistant Director in our organization.

Acting on request from the membership, a committee was formed, composed of one Chief, three biologists and two former employees; one is with the federal government and the other is with the University now. The reason for the request stems from the fact that the last time an evaluation of the jobs was made, Biologists I, II and III, was 1956; for the IV's, 1968; Assistant Chief, it was '68-71; Chief was '68 and Assistant Director was 1956. We felt that it has been too long since these jobs had been reevaluated.

The Director has been apprised and has



approved of the effort so far. The Personnel Director also was consulted and he seems to think that the program that we came up with is good.

After several meetings and a year later, certain changes were recommended in the Civil Service Register. The actual recommendations include three major revisions. One is a redefinition of job descriptions and qualification requirements. Two is the addition of two professional positions, one at either end of the scale, a biologist-in-training and a Biologist V; and three is the salary adjustment.

The first revision consisted of a condensation and clarification of the responsibility of the biologists jobs to be relevant to the functions performed. Also, we redefined the qualification requirements. It was the consensus of the committee that previous requirements were too broad and that by increasing them, two objectives were fulfilled, effectively limiting the incumbent choices to those candidates actually interested in working with the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission and, secondly, increasing the probability



of choosing a better quality employee.

The second revision included the addition of two professional positions. This we felt allows for a longer service period with a potential for advancement, thus perhaps lowering the possibility of a complacent employee. It would also permit the orderly advancement of the technical staff. The biologist-in-training and Biologist V are the two positions that we are advocating. This is not a new idea. In fact, many other professionals within the state government have this classification. Engineers are one group. The geologists have a I through V rating. Foresters have a I through V rating. We feel that our qualifications are very similar to theirs and that we actually need the extra positions.

The incentive to achieve and maintain that idea throughout their career would be enhanced if we had some place to go. We are also recommending minor changes in qualification requirements of higher positions, that is, Assistant Chief, Chief and Assistant Director. We are doing this simply to mesh with the new ones advocated for the lower



positions. Overall there is no major change in the Assistant Chief, Chief and Assistant Director.

The third revision includes salary adjustments. We feel these are necessary for several reasons. The pay at the present level is not commensurate with duties and responsibilities. In order for the technical staff to render the very best information to you, the Commission, to act upon, it is necessary to retain employment of the best the state has to offer. The present workload has resulted from years of seemingly small duty accumulations. Recent public involvement in wildlife and fisheries matters has caused much more time allocation to environmental considerations, for instance. Very simply put, more projects of all types are in progress.

We further feel that the dedication of the technical staff as a whole deserves rewarding as they have absorbed this increased workload without complaining.

Presently it was very difficult to assign pay ranges for the two additions, for the biologist-in-training and the Biologist V without rearranging



the entire salary structure. This is another reason that we did it. We are recommending a 15 percent salary adjustment. We figured out the actual cost to the Commission. This is before that latest adjustment we had, and it would only be a little over \$14,000 a month or \$172,000 annually.

Assuming a budget of \$14 million for the Commission, the addition amounts to less than one percent. The recommended salary adjustment more or less equates with salaries of our neighboring states and the national average.

Approximately 92 biological positions are presently filled in the Commission. Since 1950 48 employees have left the Commission, or a 50 percent turnover has occurred. It is difficult to maintain stability in addressing today's problems with large losses in staff. Staff turnover is due to a large extent because of low state salaries.

Now I have provided you with a breakdown of the work that we did complete, and I hope that you gentlemen will look at it and give it your consideration. The purpose of this presentation was to seek your approval and request consideration of.



an endorsement in this endeavor in the form of a letter, public statement, resolution or whatever you gentlemen think is appropriate before Civil Service is approached.

Thank you for your attention.

MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, I would like to move that we adopt the recommendations of the Louisiana Biologists Association and that in addition thereto you as Chairman make an appearance before the Louisiana Civil Service Commission to express our approval and endorsement of this proposal.

MR. BERRY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Berry, that we adopt the resolution presented by Mr. Tarver and that the Chairman attend a meeting with the Civil Service Commission to give our approval. Discussion. Mr. Veillon.

MR. TARVER: Mr. Chairman, excuse me. I can prepare a resolution and have it into the minutes at a later date, if you would like.

THE CHAIRMAN: We would prefer that.



MR. VEILLON: Mr. Chairman, the Louisiana Wildlife Federation has been of the opinion for many years that an upgrading of the salaries has been in order. As many of us know that have been around this program for any amount of time, we have lost some of our most capable people to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service because of these salary deficiencies, and I think it would be in the best interest of the entire sportsman's population of the state as well as the Commission itself to completely back this proposal and do whatever is necessary to see that it is fully implemented.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, sir.

MR. VEILLON: While I have the mike, I would like to say one thing at this time. You were introduced earlier to Captain Moreau who is the new President of the New Orleans Sportsmen's League. Since that time, the new Vice President has come into the meeting and I would like to ask him to stand and be recognized. Mr. Lester Lautenschlager, Jr.

(Mr. Lautenschlager acknowledged the introduction.)



As stated by Mr. Kostmayer, we feel that the combination of Captain Moreau and Mr. Lautenschlager will produce a very effective program for the New Orleans Sportsmen's League during 1975 and we expect them to help the Federation considerably.

One other thing I would like to say at this time. I would like to remind everyone here that the annual convention of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation will be held on March 7, 8 and 9 at the Fontainebleau Motor Hotel on Tulane Avenue, and I would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone here to be in attendance. We do have an outstanding array of guest speakers, which will include Mr. Kenneth Black, who is the regional director for U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service; also, Mr. Roland Hanley, who is a regional director for the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation; Mr. Lamar Beasley from the U. S. Forest Service, and also Colonel Heiberg, who is the District Engineer for the New Orleans District. I think that it will be time well spent. We are sure that it will be both interesting and enjoyable. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Veillon.



I would like to say at this time that we welcome the two officers from the New Orleans Sportsmen's League and offer to you our services at any time we can be of service to you.

MR. JONES: I call for the question.

MR. BERRY: The question has been called.

MR. JONES: We haven't voted on the motion yet to approve the recommendations for the biologists' salaries. We haven't voted on that.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved and seconded that we approve the recommendations of Mr. Johnnie Tarver. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the resolution is here made a part of the record.)

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission to maintain, conserve and enhance the renewable natural resources



and habitat and to develop social, economic, legal and administrative programs to permit rational utilization of the resources for the optimum benefit for the citizens of the State of Louisiana, and

WHEREAS, the technical information required to properly manage these important renewable natural resources is dependent upon the ability of our professional biological personnel to acquire, interpret, implement and administer these highly complex programs for optimum utilization by the populace, and

WHEREAS, the field of wildlife and fisheries conservation and management has evolved into a highly specialized science requiring professional and dedicated technical personnel to properly manage and administer these valuable programs, and

WHEREAS, biological qualification



requirements and job descriptions were designed as much as twenty years ago and many duties and responsibilities have changed, and

WHEREAS, the Board of the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission recognizes that the salaries of biologists are far below the national and regional averages, and

WHEREAS, many technical personnel of the Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission have resigned to accept jobs with other state and federal agencies at much greater remuneration and less responsibility, indicating that current pay level is not commensurate with the duties and responsibilities,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Mr. Clay Luttrell, Chairman, Mr. J. Burton Angelle, Director, and appropriate staff members do appear before and petition the Civil Service



Commission to adopt the suggested changes.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Mr. Clay, in keeping with a request from Mr. Jimmie Thompson, Commission member who did mention this to me at the Alexandria Wildlife Agents Association meeting, the possibility of the Board considering its March meeting in connection with the Louisiana Wildlife Federation meeting here in New Orleans, this is up for consideration between now and the end of this meeting before we set the March meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are you stating that there is a conflict in dates?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: No, I am not saying there is a conflict in dates. I am saying that he advanced the idea, the possibility, of moving up our March meeting from the latter part of March to the early part of March to coincide with the Louisiana Wildlife Federation convention here in New Orleans.

MR. THOMPSON: Let me explain what I had in mind. Two things, it is twofold. One, certainly all the Commission members will be here in New Orleans and in all probability be in attendance



with Edgar Veillon and his group, plus the fact that that group could also avail itself of being present at one of our meetings, which I am sure many of them have not had the opportunity or have never have availed themselves of it. So, it would be a twofold purpose, if it can be arranged. Now I don't know. It may be too soon for our regular business meeting. I just don't know. But it was a thought and I certainly thought it had some merit. I don't know if there are any problems with doing this.

THE CHAIRMAN: This meeting and the next meeting would be very, very close together. I believe, Mr. Veillon, your meeting is on the seventh, eighth and ninth. That is not this coming week but the week after, isn't it?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Let me throw some cold water on this real quick, Mr. Jimmie, not really wanting to, but our notice of intent has already gone out to the Federal Register that we plan to have a meeting on March 25, unless you want to call a special meeting on the seventh, eighth or ninth.

MR. THOMPSON: That just makes me a little



bit more anxious to get that amendment to the Constitution. I hope you all will take note of that. I hope you get so riled up and so mad that those legislators have to put that amendment on the call.

MR. BERRY: What he is trying to say is raise some hell about it, will you?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: But not do it in the form of a Constitutional amendment, because this doesn't have anything to do with the Constitution. It is just a plain legislative act, introduced to amend Wild Life and Fisheries out of the provisions of the Register. That is about what it amounts to.

MR. THOMPSON: But it still makes me mad and I certainly want to change the Constitution.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Veillon.

MR. VEILLON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to mention one other thing at this time. I am sure that you all are aware that the EPA will be having this hearing in Baton Rouge Thursday and Friday of this week, regarding that emergency use of DDT. If at all possible, I would like to have the Commission represented at this meeting and possibly come out with a little stronger stand than they have taken



in the past on this so there won't be any doubt left as to your feelings on this issue.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, we plan to have a representative there.

MR. VEILLON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. JONES: I move that the Commission hold a meeting in New Orleans on March 7 and 8, whether you call it a special meeting or a regular meeting, and whether or not you want to have another meeting later that month. I think it is important enough that we can transact our business and also attend the function the Federation has. I would move we have a meeting, whether you call it a special meeting or regular.

MR. BERRY: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: I would heartily endorse that because I intend to be here for every session of that meeting, anyway, if at all possible. Did you put that in the form of a motion?

MR. JONES: Yes, I did.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Berry. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.



THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

Now, I have something then to clear.

MR. JONES: I said seventh and eighth, which means you would have your regular meeting on the eighth at ten o'clock in the morning, or whenever would fit into the schedule of their convention, Burt, at your discretion.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Yes, sir, I am sure it does, to take care of the other integral part of the turkey season, the wild turkey, O. K.

MR. YANCEY: Not ten o'clock on Saturday.

MR. JONES: Well, I was saying Burt could use his discretion in looking at their schedule of activities and set our meetings to fit into that.

MR. YANCEY: Friday would be best.

MR. JONES: Leave that to the Director to arrange.

MR. YANCEY: They have a real full schedule on Saturday.

MR. BERRY: Leave it to the Director to arrange that; don't bother with the details.



THE CHAIRMAN: Let me understand. The March meeting then of the Commission would be on March --

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: That is a special meeting. The regular meeting has already been advertised in the Register.

THE CHAIRMAN: Special meeting, because I had it in my notes and had it set for a different time.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: And the purpose of the meeting is to make the Commission available to the members of the Wildlife Federation.

THE CHAIRMAN: Correct, and to encourage all the people to be there. Yes, Mr. Veillon.

MR. VEILLON: Mr. Chairman, just as a suggestion, if you are trying to coordinate this with the convention, our registration starts at noon Friday, so if you could possibly have your meeting Friday morning, then none of the Commissioners would have to miss any part of our convention. That would be the ideal time, Friday morning. Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Jerry, that was the seventh and eighth of March?



MR. JONES: Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN: And, of course, our Director here will work out the time schedule. Thank you.

Now, we have one other item. That is the setting of the dates for the public hearing in Alexandria for hunting and trapping seasons. The Commission has decided that we will hold those in Alexandria on the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th of May. For the press, I will repeat, 22nd, 23rd and 24th of May in Alexandria.

Mr. Angelle, you have some things to bring forward.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Yes, under Item 14, it has been recommended that we have a discussion dealing with the laws regulating the raccoon hunting. It is going to be moderated by Mr. Ted O'Neil and Greg Lindstrom of our Fur Division. I understand they have put a little note, not for action of the Commission but for a discussion.

I also have two or three other items that we could discuss. Go ahead, Ted.

MR. THOMPSON: Let me make a correction,



if I may. Bear with me one moment, Ted, before you start. O. K., let me correct that, if I may, that there will not be a hearing on the 22nd day of May but rather our informal meeting on the 22nd day of May. The hearing will only be after our formal meeting on the 23rd and also on the 24th, as it has been in the past.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Which still falls on a Friday and a Saturday.

MR. THOMPSON: Which means we will meet Thursday, the same as we have done yesterday, and then we will have our meeting Friday and Saturday in the hotel, and following our official meeting we will adjourn and reconvene for the season and bag limit hearing, which is restricted only to season and bag limit. Any other business will have to come prior to that.

MR. BERRY: Mike, I would like to ask you and other members of the press if you would to please invite everybody interested in the hunting season to come up this year, because a lot of them don't make it, and then they come in two months later or three months later and they want to change



the seasons again. So, if you might stress it to them this year in your paper, we would appreciate it.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: And especially keeping in mind, Mr. Berry, that we have a Federal Register and we will be probably operating about that time in strict compliance with it by that time, so there will be a 45 to 60-day lead time needed to make any changes in the hunting season once the Commission has adopted the regulations.

MR. THOMPSON: It might be well to point out, too, that our May meeting has been moved up a month, which is historically in June, for the simple reason of the setting of the duck season, which we have anticipated being able to take care of.

MR. YANCEY: And trapping.

MR. THOMPSON: And trapping, of course. Just a minute, Ted. Let me echo, if I may, what Dick is telling us, that also this meeting of seasons and bag limits is also, Ted, for trapping, which is where they should register their complaints or recommendations at the same time.



MR. O'NEIL: I will notify the trapping interests.

MR. BERRY: Mike, in the past we have gone along with changing these seasons at the request of police juries and what-have-you, but you might make a little note, if you would, and the other members of the press, that this year we are going to be hard pressed to make any changes. If they want to have any comment and input, they had better do it at this meeting up in Alexandria in May.

MR. THOMPSON: Did I hear Marc say something about a holiday season?

MR. DUPUY: No, I was asking if it was going to be in the Holiday Inn in Alexandria.

MR. THOMPSON: Oh, I thought you said holiday season. I don't know anything about that other. Where is it going to be held?

MRS. PENDLEY: At the Ramada Inn.

MR. O'NEIL: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Commission, we know that over the past number of years we have been hard pressed with our enforcement division and our legitimate trappers and our land-



owners and everyone that traps and hunts and fishes and tries to run land have had problems with a certain law that we have. That is the legislative act to hunt coons with a headlight and a gun and a dog. It has been abused in all sorts of ways, especially in the coastal marshes and some in the deep swamps.

It has come to our attention to try to do something about it. This that we have come up with has been the result of a number of meetings with the enforcement people and the fish and game people and with everybody interested, and it stemmed with one of your active leagues, the Clio Sportsmen's League who have both trappers and hunters in it. As you all know, anyone with a headlight and a gun and a dog can go out and shoot coon anywhere and it is legal.

Now I am going to call on Mr. Greg Lindstrom here, who has been right on top of this in these meetings. Of course, we think that one of the main things that we can eliminate this coon-hunting law altogether in the coastal marshes, and we haven't discussed where the line will be, whether it will be the Intracoastal Canal or



Highway 90 or the coastal parishes. It will be one of the strongest points we can get across for the landowners and the legitimate trappers of the coast where most of our fur is harvested. Then we have some alternatives for the upland areas for coon hunting.

I would like to call on Mr. Lindstrom, or should we call on the enforcement division to explain some of the problems that they have had in their patrolling? Do you want to hear from some of them?

MR. BERRY: I think we are aware of that. We have heard enough complaints, so we are all aware of it.

MR. JONES: Ted, let me make a suggestion. Since we are going to meet at the same time as the Federation is meeting and there is a pretty active group that are members of the Federation that are coon hunters. I think they will probably be at that convention, and this would be one of the items that we could discuss at the meeting that we are going to have in March.

I think your idea is excellent here, and



some of the members of the Commission have expressed that also, but the people that are most concerned are this group of coon hunters and I think they belong to the Federation and probably will be at that convention, and this would give them the opportunity to concur with us, if they do, so that when we put the thing in the hopper for the legislature, at least we have their approval of it, because even though it seems a minor thing, coon hunting is a big thing to some people.

MR. O'NEIL: It sure is.

MR. JONES: Now if you think you want to go ahead with it today, fine, but I think it would give those people an opportunity to be heard when they are here for the convention.

MR. O'NEIL: I think the Commission has gone over this proposal, and I feel sure we would all like to adjust this season some way, but we are all in agreement here; the enforcement division, the fish and game division, and the fur division seem to be in agreement. All we have to do now --

MR. JONES: Well, I make a motion we approve what you have if everybody is in agreement.



MR. BERRY: I second it. Oh, I can't second it; I am chairing. Do I have a second from somebody.

MR. WILLE: Second.

VICE CHAIRMAN BERRY: We have a motion from Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Wille.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Wait one minute. You are talking about legislation here.

MR. JONES: I have read it. We are talking about approving what they recommend here, that piece of paper, that we submit it for legislation accomplishing this. One thing I would like to do in the motion, though, is that you prepare the legislation and bring it back to us. I want to be sure it says what we want it to say.

MR. O'NEIL: After the meeting here with the sportsmen's group.

MR. JONES: That's right. You prepare a bill that is going to accomplish these things, bring it back to us, and we will present it at the Federation to the coon hunters, and if it does that, submit it to the legislature.

VICE CHAIRMAN BERRY: Gentlemen, I have



a motion and a second. I would like to have a vote. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

VICE CHAIRMAN BERRY: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

MR. O'NEIL: Thank you, gentlemen.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: O. K., Mr. Acting Chairman, I have a request from the GSA, who is the current holder of the lease of this building. They have asked for a seven-month extension and also the inclusion of an area of approximately 725 square feet for which they will pay us at the rate of \$250, a total of approximately \$2,000, for a period of one year, or seven-twelfths of this, which would be our share. I don't think it will have much immediate effect on the national budget, but the Federal Building on Poydras Street is not ready and will not be ready for at least probably another five or six months, so the federal courts are in this building and it is under lease with the GSA, General Services Administration, and they have asked for an extension of a seven months lease, and



we need your authority to execute this lease.

MR. THOMPSON: So move.

VICE CHAIRMAN BERRY: I have a motion by Mr. Thompson. Do I have a second?

MR. WILLE: Second.

VICE CHAIRMAN BERRY: Seconded by Mr. Wille. Any discussion? All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

VICE CHAIRMAN BERRY: Opposed, no.

(No response)

So ordered.

(Whereupon, Chairman

Luttrell assumed the Chair.)

MR. THOMPSON: Let me get one in here, if I may, Burt, while you are getting yours ready there. I have a resolution and I would like to give you a little way of explanation. I would like to read the resolution first so you will be cognizant of what I will be talking about. The resolution reads:

"WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Louisiana through their representatives, the Legislature, have



delegated to it the responsibility and authority to manage, protect and preserve the State's wildlife, fish and shellfish resources; and

"WHEREAS, through the years the duly appointed Commission members have faithfully, unselfishly and untiringly performed this public trust;

"NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in recognition of the exemplary services rendered by all past and future Commission Members that each individual member who has served on this board be and he is hereby awarded a lifetime privilege to take wild game, fish and shellfish resources of the State in accordance with laws enacted by the Legislature and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by this Commission;

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of this Commission be and he is hereby directed to fulfill this



resolution by taking whatever action necessary, be it by Legislative Act or Resolution, as he deems necessary in the exercise of his sole discretion;

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each member of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission who desires to exercise the lifetime privilege herein granted pay to the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission a lifetime hunting and fishing license fee calculated at the present license fee rate in accordance with the said member's present age to age 60 when he automatically receives a lifetime permit;

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of the Commission establish any other terms and conditions to fulfill this resolution as he, in his sole discretion, deems necessary and just."

I would like to make that resolution and ask that this Board adopt it and then, by way of



explanation, I would like to say we have some members who served on this Commission in the past who have had very little recognition for their service. They are dedicated men. I think this would be an honor to them. They would have in their possession a lifetime hunting and fishing license. This would be of no expense to the state. This would be not over and above any other hunter or fisherman of this state received due to the fact that, say, a man was 50 years and he would pay from 50 to 60 when he automatically receives a free license the rest of his life. He would pay this ten years at the going rate. Also, that any increase in the rate that should possibly be brought about will be assessed to this person if he so chooses to purchase this membership.

Also, by way of explanation, what we would gain as an organization in the event a person bought a ten-year lifetime license and he passed away at five of those years, then the state would not refund any of this money and we would be the recipient of an extra amount of money which we would not have received otherwise, plus the fact,



of course, that this money would be on deposit, hopefully bearing interest and hopefully at ten percent -- I don't think they get that, but anyhow, let me invest it for you and it would be at ten percent.

I respectfully submit this to this Commission and ask that this be adopted.

MR. BERRY: I so move.

MR. JONES: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Berry and seconded by Mr. Jones. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

The ayes have it. So ordered.

MR. DUPUY: This requires legislation, this last thing that we passed?

THE CHAIRMAN: We don't know.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: If it does, then we have to provide the proper legislation for that consideration.

It is about the time of the year when this Commission has to approve or disapprove or



amend a capital outlay budget request which we have to furnish the Division of Administration and the Budget Committee. All the divisions have gotten together and have come up with a budget recommendation, capital outlay, that is.

Dealing with the Fish Division -- I have copies of this that I will make available to the press -- we have gone through a number of these items; I can either go in total by division or I can go on line item, whichever is your preference. Do I have a recommendation?

THE CHAIRMAN: Do you want us to take a vote on that? I would recommend that you take it by line item.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: By line item, O. K. Under the Fish Division, under the conservation, we have a total of approximately \$7.5 million available, plus an amendment here that I just got from the Oyster Division that I will go over shortly. Of that, \$5.5 million is available through the Conservation Fund, \$.5 million from Rockefeller, \$350,000 from Marsh Island, and a projected and anticipated federal funding of about \$1,051,000.



We have divided this capital outlay money between the Fish Division, Refuge Division and Game Division, and as I said, the Oyster and Seafood Division here that I will go over.

Under the Fish Division, boat ramp repairs, which is repair of our existing boat ramps, a total of \$150,000. New construction of boat ramps, which will probably be mainly on our Game Management Areas where we do have a need for them, \$200,000. Hatchery pond improvement in Monroe, \$200,000 enlargements. Hatchery building in Monroe, \$35,000. Fish hatchery house in Beachwood, \$75,000, of which \$56,000 is federal. Sheds and fencing at Beachwood hatchery, \$28,000. Research laboratory at Toledo Bend Lake, \$100,000. A total of \$788,000 under the Fish Division capital outlay request.

Refuge Division, a total of \$836,000. \$400,000, levee maintenance at Rockefeller, which comes under the Rockefeller Fund. \$86,000 for a dwelling at Rockefeller. \$100,000, repair work, control structures, at Marsh Island. \$250,000, six miles, levee construction on Point au Chien Game Management Area.



Under the Game Division, a total of \$3 million for land acquisition purposes that we have in this budget. Access road to Saline Game Management Area, \$200,000; \$150,000 of it is federal funds. Headquarters complex at Pearl River Game Management Area, \$300,000. Alexandria office building, District III district office, \$675,000. Minden office building, District I, \$455,000. Ferriday office building, District IV, includes a boat ramp and utility shed, \$500,000. A pump at the Greentree Reservoir on Loggy Bayou, \$20,000; \$15,000 of it is federal funds. Greentree Reservoir at Saline, \$125,000, \$83,500 which is federal funds. Greentree Reservoir on Red River Game Management Area, \$125,000, \$83,500 of which is federal funds. Land survey of Three Rivers, \$40,000. Fencing, Three Rivers Game Management Area, \$100,000, \$75,000 of which is federal funds. Storage facilities at Peason Ridge, Lutch-Moore, Sabine and Catahoula areas, \$28,000, \$21,000 is federal funds. Headquarters and overnight cabin on Three Rivers, \$50,000. Headquarters building at Red River, \$100,000. Which makes a total of



\$7,432,000.

The reason we have got this money available mostly is because we are requesting that all of the money surplus out of all these funds be utilized in case it is decided that Conservation Fund money has to be remitted to the General Fund. At least we have done our part in requesting that this money be made available for these projects and the projects for which it is being asked.

O. K., you can discuss this. I am going to look at this real quick which has been brought to me from Oysters and Water Bottoms.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any discussion, gentlemen, on the capital outlay budget.

MR. WILLE: I make a motion.

MR. THOMPSON: Make a motion what?

MR. WILLE: That we approve that portion of the budget.

MR. JONES: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved and seconded that we approve that portion of the budget as it has been read to us by Mr. Angelle. Those in favor, say aye.



IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

MR. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, I would like to vote as abstaining, or I would like to be recorded as abstaining, I am not voting.

THE CHAIRMAN: The ayes have it. We have one abstaining. Let the record show that we have one abstention.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Thank you, gentlemen. The Oyster and Water Bottoms capital outlay program consists of a total of \$1,495,000. Two-thirds of it comes from the Commercial Seafood Fund of \$996,000 and one-third from the Oyster Seed Grounds, \$498,000. Again I anticipate this is utilizing the surplus so that we do not completely lose it in case the Conservation Fund is ruled to be the surplus is going into the general fund.

He has got it broken down as Cameron Parish Port of Entry, \$270,000: Jetty repairs, Grand Terre, \$175,000. Repair to dormitory at Grand Terre, \$25,000. Shell planting, \$150,000. Fuel dock, Grand Terre, \$35,000. Boathouse, Bayou du Large, \$25,000. Ponds at Grand Terre,



\$100,000. Repair wet laboratory, Baton Rouge, \$25,000. Office, port of entry, Cameron, \$25,000. I guess that could be included in that other one. Seaplane dock and ramps, \$40,000. Bayou LaMoque, freshwater, \$625,000, or a total of \$1,495,000.

Added to the other figure of \$7,432,000, we are talking about a capital outlay program of \$8,927,000, of which \$3 million is land acquisition purposes basically. The rest of it is the operation of the Commission.

MR. DUPUY: Burt, if it is determined that we do not stand to lose the Conservation Fund, are we committed to these particular items as listed in this budget, or can it be amended or do we have to follow it?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: The procedure after this has been turned over to the Division of Administration and to the Budget Committee, it then goes to the appropriations committee of the House and it is either amended there or, you know, accepted in its original form, and then to the House and to the Senate until it becomes a part of the whole appropriation package or the capital



outlay program.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other discussion?
Dick.

MR. YANCEY: Each one of these items will have to come back to the Commission. They have to come back to you for approval, and if you decide not to go with one of these things, you can do that at that time.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Surely. It is a request for the approval of the committee and the legislature.

THE CHAIRMAN: Do I have a motion?

MR. JONES: I so move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jones moves, Mr. Wille seconds. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed, no.

(No response)

The ayes have it. So ordered.

Is that it?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: I don't think I have anything else.



THE CHAIRMAN: I have one little item to bring before the Commission and then we want to have a report, or we do have a report ready, on our quail situation.

The item I have is quite small. It won't take very long, I don't think. Mr. Laborde, Mr. Adris Laborde of the ALEXANDRIA DAILY TOWN TALK, handed to me yesterday and requested that I read it to the Commission and ask them to take action on it.

(Reading) "Memo re Spring Bayou.

"Shortly after the state took over the Spring Bayou area near Marks-ville a canal was cut between Petite Bay/Old River into Lac Tete de Boeuf (Premier Lac).

"The idea reportedly was to create a flow of silted water into the Spring Bayou lakes to wash out water grasses.

"Actually, no such thing ever happened. Only the 1973 flood was able to de-vegetate the network of shallow lakes.



"The canal, however, has resulted in undue siltation, over long periods, in lakes that used to remain clear virtually the year round.

"It is the consensus of the hundreds of persons who fish the Spring Bayou area that the canal was a negative project and should be closed."

He offers a suggestion that Mr. Joe Herring look into this matter, but the gentleman asked me to have the Commission take some action on this. What is your pleasure?

MR. DUPUY: Mr. Chairman, before you do, I would like to comment on that. That canal was designed by the Wild Life and Fisheries biologists. It does not perform in the manner in which Mr. Adris Laborde has suggested that it does. The canal is a very definite and vital asset to the Spring Bayou Management Area and I believe that the biologists who are in charge of the area and the district biologist, Cecil LaCaze, and Gerald Owens, who is on the Management Area, certainly should be consulted before we take an action to plug and



close and abandon the canal. This is the first knowledge that I have had of it and it comes as a complete surprise and it is certainly not a fair position to ask that we plug and close a canal that was recommended by the biologists that does perform what it was supposed to do. I certainly wouldn't like to see that we do it without any further study.

MR. BERRY: Joe, let's hear from you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Marc.

MR. BERRY: I want to hear from Joe.

THE CHAIRMAN: Just a second. Joe, would you hold just a second? Marc, I don't know where the Bayou is and I believe you said it was an abandoned canal.

MR. DUPUY: No, this is a canal that was cut between Petite Bay and Premier Lac in the Spring Bayou Management Area.

THE CHAIRMAN: Now, just what land does it drain, Marc?

MR. DUPUY: It connects water bottoms of Old River with the Spring Bayou Management Area, with some of the lakes.

THE CHAIRMAN: I was trying to get in my



mind where the siltation came from. If it just connects two lakes, it just becomes a connecting link between lakes.

MR. DUPUY: That's all it does.

THE CHAIRMAN: Then there is no siltation, no muddy water, in there.

MR. DUPUY: Well, the muddy water he is talking about is muddy water which at times is in existence in Old River and it simply circulates through, but the muddy water is maybe a matter of a few weeks in a year. That's all.

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. I was trying to clear myself so I could think about it and read my mind. Joe, please.

MR. JONES: Mr. Chairman, may I --

THE CHAIRMAN: All right, Jerry.

MR. JONES: I would like to make a motion that Mr. Herring look into it and give us a report, as Mr. Laborde has requested. I think that is all he is requesting. He is not requesting us to take any action today.

MR. BERRY: I will second that.

THE CHAIRMAN: You are correct. That



is all on the paper.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Adris Laborde, ALEX-
ANDRIA TOWN TALK?

THE CHAIRMAN: That's right.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: That's not one of our
new employees?

THE CHAIRMAN: Not that I know of. If
it is, you hadn't informed me about hiring him.

MR. JONES: Call for the question.

THE CHAIRMAN: All right. The question
has been called for, limiting or cutting out debate.
It has been moved, as per the written request, that
Joe be instructed to look into the matter and make
a report to the Board. Those in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Those opposed, no.

(No response)

The ayes have it. So ordered.

I am through now. Mr. Dupuy, can we have
your report?

MR. DUPUY: All right, Mr. Chairman, I
have a written and prepared report that you might
want to look at and pass to other members of the



Commission, and I will comment briefly on it, but I would like to ask that the report itself be incorporated into the minutes of this meeting.

This deals with the progress that this Commission has made on development of quail habitat throughout the state, on a statewide basis. Now I am not going to read the report, but I would like to comment briefly that several bird hunters' and quail hunters' associations have been formed. One is statewide, the Louisiana Bird Hunters' Association. A number of organizations have been formed in both north central and south Louisiana by four or five regional organizations recently, within the last year or two, and quite a number have existed in the past.

All are definitely and vitally interested in development of quail habitat, that is, quail and upland game habitat and the improvement of it.

Now this Commission is the beneficiary of additional funds as the result of the increase in license fees. In addition to the monies committed to Ducks Unlimited and to the purchase of new lands, the increase in the license fees last year has given



us an additional sum of money in excess of \$270,000. The staff has gone to the Budget Committee of the Division of Administration with a proposed \$270,781 budget to provide an expanded and upland game development and research program on a statewide basis. This budget was approved by the Budget Committee earlier this month.

Now the attached documents and exhibits which accompany this report show the manner in which the monies are to be used. Basically, it is planned that, because of the land use changes and the drastically reduced quail population and farm game population, and of course the interest of the hunters and sportsmen throughout the state, that we plan to use the money to increase the food plot areas within our own game management areas, to increase our personnel, both professional and non-professional, to develop a quail and game project of improved habitat throughout the state on the management areas, and to do whatever fencing is necessary, marking of boundaries, seeding particular areas, acquisition of vehicles and farm tractor implements and equipment, bulldozers, and whatever



is necessary. Of course, vitally a part of this whole program would be a research program to be continued by the Commission biologists and professional staff.

Now we work with the United States Forestry Service in cooperative agreements and there is added to that acreage that would be available for development on the military lands and on the Forest Service lands an addenda here that includes the work that has been done on our own wildlife management areas. It is quite extensive and I will not attempt to read that.

Now, additionally, the staff has been working in the direction of an effort to acquire new lands, to buy new lands that are proper quail habitat lands, and we have not been successful so far but our efforts are continuing. I personally have met with a number of large landowners whose lands are proper habitat. Some have indicated a reluctant willingness to consider the possibility of sale, even with the reservation of minerals in perpetuity, but others are not interested. I think the timing now, with the economy such as it is, the



recession that we are in and uncertainties of the future, that people are very reluctant, particularly large landowners are reluctant to make commitments for the sale of their properties at this time.

So, we are going to continue to try to acquire lands, continue to search for that. In the same direction, however, a number of private landowners have indicated through letters of intent willingness to allow some development by our Commission on their properties with the type of long-term agreements which would allow us to use the land under a management type of program where we would have the control and have the ability to dictate how the properties are to be developed and they to retain the fee simple title to it.

Now, we are working with the Corps of Engineers on a 1,200-acre area on the Bodcau Wildlife Management Area that would be a demonstration area for quail development. These plans are in the making but have not been finalized. Then further, we have written, Joe has, to the other 48 states contiguous to the United States, requesting some information on what acres-for-wildlife private



programs that they might have or public programs that they might have, and a number of states have replied. A majority of them, and Joe is presently compiling a report, I think we can develop a program, and I have mentioned this several times before and I have mentioned it at the various bird hunters' associations meetings that I have attended, that we could develop a voluntary program of acres-for-wildlife, in which farmers participate, land-owners participate, that would enable some of their lands to be set aside for the proper development of quail habitat and upland game habitat without affecting their farming or other land use operations. So, we will soon have a report and some recommendations for you with regard to that type of wildlife program.

I think with that comment I would conclude my remarks.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Marc. I am especially interested in this quail program, having been a dedicated quail hunter for a long, long time. Marc and I have discussed this before and it is my hope that we can find in the upland area



some land that will be sold to us for a management program. I believe we owe to the quail hunter the same obligation we do to the turkey hunter and the deer hunter and so forth, duck hunters. We have done quite a bit in the way of purchasing equipment and lands and other things for that group.

I was quite shocked when I was going back over this to find out what had been done. I went back through our annual reports. As I told the group, I believe it was the last meeting, I found that the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission has been doing a tremendous job on the improvement of quail hunting, from that report. I still intend to do whatever I can to get that report reinstated because that is the only way I know of that we can really go back and find out what has been done over long period of time and properly evaluate the programs that we are carrying.

Thank you, Marc. If you get anything new and anything encouraging, especially about the purchase of habitat, I hope you will notify us so that we can let the press and the public know about it.

MR. BERRY: I would like to go on record



as personally thanking Mr. Dupuy and the staff members who worked on this fine report. I have just glanced at it but I can certainly tell from first glance that they have done an in-depth study and have put a lot of time and effort in it, and we need more of this kind of report. Thank you, Marc.

MR. DUPUY: I think you need to thank Joe Herring in particular.

(A copy of the above-mentioned report is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

MR. THOMPSON: Move we adjourn.

MR. BERRY: Second it.

THE CHAIRMAN: It has been moved and seconded that we adjourn, and I so declare.

. . . Thereupon, at 12:45 o'clock p.m., Tuesday, February 25, 1975, the Board meeting of Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission was adjourned. . . .





J. BURTON ANGELLE
DIRECTOR

WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
400 ROYAL STREET
NEW ORLEANS 70130

EDWIN EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

February 20, 1975

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. H. Clay Luttrell, Chairman, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

FROM: Marc Dupuy - Commission Member

SUBJECT: Progress - Statewide Quail Development

The Louisiana Bird Hunter Association was organized and they recommended, very highly, an expanded quail development project on a statewide basis. I met and discussed quail management with groups of this organization in central, north, and southwest Louisiana, and other groups. All of these were keenly interested in more development and habitat improvement.

As a result of funds that became available due to the increase in license fees prior to the 1974-75 hunting season, a budget increase of \$270,781.00 was submitted to the Budget Committee, Division of Administration, to provide an expanded quail and upland game development and research program on a statewide basis. This budget was approved in early February. The form BA-7, supplemental supporting information, and the itemized budget is attached.

In addition to other work that has been done, 10,000 lespedeza japonica plants and 300 pounds of seed were obtained from North Carolina. The plants will be planted, as soon as possible, on the wildlife management areas where we are conducting quail work. As soon as the danger of frost is over seed will be planted on the same areas.

A search has been conducted for land that can be purchased to conduct quail and other upland game work, but so far none has been located. We have explored several suggested areas but the lands were not for sale or the price was above appraised value. We will continue attempting to locate land through our staff, the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, Quail and Upland Game Association and others.

Mr. H. Clay Luttrell

Page 2

February 20, 1975

Some private landowners have been contacted about doing work on their land that will increase quail habitat. A letter of intent has been received from Crown Zellerbach that would permit some development work to be carried out on their land. International Paper Company has been receptive to the idea, and will give the Commission a letter of intent to enter into an agreement. Also, Olin Mathieson may enter into an agreement with the Commission.

A work plan was prepared and sent to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers on a 1,200 acre area, on the Bodcau Wildlife Management Area, that will be a quail development demonstration area. So far the plans have not been finalized.

A letter was prepared and sent to the contiguous 48 states of the United States, inquiring into and requesting information on the "Acres For Wildlife Program". A majority of the states have replied and we are compiling a report.

Attached is a listing of the Wildlife Management Areas, that have quail habitat, and work that has been accomplished within the last year.

Respectfully Submitted By:

MARC DUPUY
COMMISSION MEMBER

MD: lp

Attachments

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION
BUDGET OFFICE
BATON ROUGE, LA.

10/14/74
DATE

15/75 RESUBMISSION

REQUEST FOR CHANGE
OF ANNUAL APPROVED BUDGET

NAME OF AGENCY Louisiana Wild Life & Fisheries Commission
SCHEDULE NUMBER 05-08-09
HEAD OF BUDGET UNIT [Signature]
TITLE Fiscal Officer

PART I

	1	2	3
ESTIMATED MEANS OF FINANCING	TOTAL BUDGET APPROVED FOR 19 74 19 75	ADJUSTMENTS (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE	REVISED BUDGET FOR 19 74 19 75
STATE FUNDS:			
General Fund			
Board of Liquidation Res.# Date			
Interagency Transfers			
FEDERAL FUNDS:	915,000		915,000
OTHER FUNDS: Conservation	1,538,070	+ 270,781	1,808,851
TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING	2,453,070	+ 270,781	2,723,851

PART II

	1	2	3
ALLOTMENTS	TOTAL BUDGET APPROVED FOR 19 74 19 75	ADJUSTMENTS (+) INCREASE (-) DECREASE	REVISED BUDGET FOR 19 74 19 75
PERSONAL SERVICES			
Salaries	1,199,033	+ 15,705	1,214,738
Other Compensation	18,124		18,124
Related Benefits	126,887	+ 2,181	129,068
21 TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES	1,354,044	+ 17,886	1,371,930
22 TRAVEL	52,690	+ 2,625	55,315
23 OPERATING SERVICES	202,833		202,833
24 SUPPLIES	210,550	+ 122,500	333,050
25 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	60,000		60,000
26 OTHER CHARGES	22,500		22,500
CAPITAL OUTLAYS			
Acquisitions	338,746	+ 127,770	466,516
Major Repairs	22,800		22,800
27 TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAYS	432,546	+ 127,770	560,316
28 DEBT SERVICE	108,907		108,907
TOTAL	2,453,070	+ 270,781	2,723,851

Justified (Justification (See Reverse))

APPROVED:

DATE:

[Signature]

Justification should state specific reasons why savings have occurred as well as reasons for the need in allotments to which transfer is requested. If necessary attach additional sheets.

The original and two copies must be forwarded to the Budget Office. After action by the Budget Office, one copy will be returned to your agency.

to provide an expanded quail and upland game development and research program on a Statewide basis. To establish supplemental food and cover plots for the purpose of improving habitat conditions on public lands, game management area lands, pipeline or power line rights of way, or other suitable sites available on private property that is open to public hunting.

to employ a Biologist and other personnel who will be responsible for supervising and carrying out this program utilizing the assistance of existing Commission personnel as necessary. The biologist will also be required to carry out studies designed to monitor quail populations, and to determine procedures under which these game birds may be benefited (see attachment).

Means of Finance - Conservation Fund has increased to provide the funds to implement this program. Sufficient funds are available after the 1974/75 Fiscal Year's budget is satisfied (approximate surplus, \$500,000.00); and with the passage of Act 216 of 1974, increasing hunting license fees, it is estimated that an additional \$1,100,000.00 will be realized. Therefore, sufficient funds will be available in the Conservation Fund to finance this program in the amount of \$270,781.00.

Allotments To implement this program, the following increases to the Allotments are necessary:

Personal Services --

Salaries - 7 new positions for the balance of the Fiscal Year (5 months)

1 - Biologist III \$865 mo. with merit increases	\$ 4,325
2 - Farmer III \$400 mo. each " " "	4,000
4 - Farmer II \$369 mo. each " " "	7,380
Total Salaries	\$ 15,705

Related Benefits --

Retirement for the above positions 8%	\$ 1,256
Hospitalization & Life Insurance	925
Total Related Benefits	\$ 2,181

Total Personal Services

\$ 17,886

Travel --

In-State, 7 employees for 5 months at \$75.00 per month	\$ 2,625
---	----------

Supplies --

Other Operating Supplies --

Plot Markers for approx. 300 1/2-acre food plots:	
3,750 plastic signs @ \$2.50 each	\$ 9,375
Fencing for approx. 300 1/2-acre food plots,	
620 lineal feet ea. Total approx. 186,000 lineal feet:	
750 rolls - 1/4-mile roll-barbed wire @ \$50.00 a roll	37,500
75 rolls - net wire @ \$75.00 a roll	5,625
15,000 posts - 6 1/2 ft. by 3 in. - @ \$1.50 each	22,500
1,500 posts - 8 ft. by 5 in. - @ \$5.00 each	7,500
Fertilizer - 200 tons @ \$150.00 per ton	30,000
Seed - 20,000 lbs. @ \$.50 per pound	10,000
	\$122,500

Capital Outlays - Acquisitions --

Automotive -

2 - 3/4-ton pickup trucks	\$ 9,000
1 four-wheel Bronco	4,500
1 - 2 1/2-ton stake body truck	7,500
Total Automotive	\$ 21,000

Farm & Heavy Movable -

6 - Tractors, Ford 5,000 @ \$11,500 each	\$ 69,000
3 - Trailers, Utility @ \$2,500 each	7,500
1 - Trailer, Heavy Duty	5,000
6 - Disc or Harrow @ \$1,700 each	10,200
6 - Plows @ \$1,020 each	6,120
3 - Bushhogs, @ \$1,500 each	4,500
6 - Fertilizer & Seed Distributors @ \$600 each	3,600
6 - Backfire Torches @ \$75.00 each	450
- Sub Soiler	400
Total Farm & Heavy Movable	\$106,770

Total Capital Outlays & Acquisitions

\$127,770

TOTAL INCREASE TO ALLOTMENTS

\$270,781

State of Louisiana



WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
400 ROYAL STREET
NEW ORLEANS 70130

J. BURTON ANGELLE
DIRECTOR

EDWIN EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

Revised
1/23/75

Supplement BA 7 15/75
10/16/74

Proposed Quail and Farm Game Development

This project is necessary because of land use changes which have drastically reduced quail and farm game populations and habitat. At the present time it is estimated that the state has approximately 140,000 quail and farm game hunters and it is becoming increasingly difficult for these sportsmen to find areas that are open to public use.

It is planned to establish food plots by planting and fertilizing desirable quail and farm game plants; fencing will be done when cattle and hogs are present. In areas where live stock is not a problem discing, mowing, seeding and fertilizer will be applied in long, narrow strips across suitable habitat.

In order to initiate this program it is proposed to employ one quail and upland game leader (Biologist III) and six farm workers. The fertilizer, seed, tractors, fencing and farm implements are necessary to conduct the development work.

The proposed quail and farm game development project is being instituted to improve and develop habitat on a statewide basis and on the

wildlife management areas which are operated by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

Development of food plots will be conducted on the W. M. A. 's, power line and pipe line right-of-ways where agreements can be obtained from both the Company and land owner, on private company holdings where leases can be secured and governmental owned lands (state, federal and municipal) that are open for public hunting.

Boundary markers of food plots will be purchased through state contract. These signs will designate the food plots as quail food plots which will be open to the general public for free hunting.

Fencing will be done in only those areas where grazing by livestock would present a problem. This will include food plots plants on W. M. A. 's and on private land under lease agreement.

Seeding will be applied at standard rates. The type seed to be used will include lespedeza, brown top millet, sorghum and sunflower seed, etc. Where terrain and habitat type permit, lespedeza bicolor plants will be planted.

Vehicles required will include two pick-up trucks, one 4-wheel drive vehicle and a stake body 2-1/2 ton truck. Vehicles acquired will be assigned on a statewide basis to cover all phases of quail development. Pick-up trucks will be the major means of transportation in answering farmers request for quail development information. The 4-wheel drive vehicle will be used during inclement weather to work and check progress of development work throughout the state and in answering calls by farmers seeking advise on quail development techniques.

New farm tractors and implements purchased will be used throughout the state on quail development work. This equipment may also be used in development work on other species. Existing equipment which is now on hand will also be used in the program. However, it should be pointed out that all new equipment requested is necessary in order to expand the present development program of quail work to include the entire state.

Bulldozers will be used to create food plots and openings in timbered areas throughout the state as the program expands.

On lands other than wildlife management areas and lands on which a quail development lease has been obtained, technical assistance on an extension type program will be conducted to inform the owners of those lands in habitat development techniques that will produce more quail. The overall objective of the statewide quail or farm game program will be to increase the amount of quail habitat. An improvement in habitat will result in an increase in wildlife populations.

Research programs will be conducted to determine if wild quail trapped in one area and released on another would create any substantial build up of the quail populations.

Present Programs

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, Game Division, conducts development work on U. S. Forest Service lands through Cooperative Agreements. The acreage under U. S. Forest Service

ownership is approximately 600,000 acres. This agreement permits the Commission to do game development on all U. S. Forest Service lands as long as it does not interfere with Forest Service programs. Commission development work on Forest Service land, up to now, has been confined to specified Wildlife Management Areas. This was due to limited funds being available for the Commission game development program. With the requested funds being made available quail development will be expanded to Forest Service lands, off Wildlife Management Areas, that lends itself to habitat development.

Game development on Fort Polk and Peason Wildlife Management Areas (military lands under control of the U. S. Army) is carried out under licenses from the Army. A license permits the Commission to do game development work as long as it does not interfere with military usage.

The Commission, through its District Supervisors and other personnel, is constantly looking for land to purchase and lease. We have been especially alert in searching for lands that could be purchased for intensive quail development and research work.

The 1974 Legislature approved a hunting license increase which will provide \$1,100,000 revenue for additional wildlife work. The act also provides that 10 percent of these funds will be dedicated to Ducks Unlimited and 25 percent will be used for land acquisition. From these additional funds the Budget Committee has recently approved an expenditure of \$168,000 for travel, uniforms and vehicles for Enforcement Division use.

The following shows the disposition of these additional revenues and proposed use for the remaining:

\$1,100,000	License Fee Increase
110,000	Ducks Unlimited
275,000	Land Acquisition
168,000	Enforcement, Travel, Uniforms and Vehicle
<u>\$ 547,000</u>	Remaining Funds

Of these \$547,000 remaining funds it is requested that \$270,781 be used for quail and upland game development (BA-7).

It is further proposed that the remaining \$276,219 be used for land acquisition and development as top priority.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

On Which

QUAIL HABITAT IMPROVEMENT HAS BEEN CONDUCTED

Alexander State Forest

7,875 acres in size
4,000 acres in quail range
500 acres open

The Louisiana Forestry Commission has a burning program in effect and through this program approximately one third of the quail range is burned annually. Other normal timber management and harvest practices carried out on the area benefits quail by keeping the overhead canopy open and scarifying the ground which is good for the production of quail food plants. As for as wild life plots go there are none because no agreement could be worked out with the landowners.

Bodcau

32,000 acres in size - all considered quail range of variable quality.

2,000 acres in fallow fields or wildlife plots dispersed over the area

In 1974, 31 acres of brown top millet, milo, and sunflower, and two acres of corn and peas were planted in small plots dispersed over the area.

150 acres were disked and 100 bush hogged.
Native quail food producing plants have come in on these.

Each plot received the treatment of being planted, disked or bushhogged and native annuals will come in, and some fallow strips.

Approximately 1,500 acres were burned during the winter of 1973-74.
Approximately 1,300 acres have been burned this winter.
Approximately 1,500 acres of timber is sold annually.

Strips of wheat, of approximately 100 acres, will be planted this fall.

Caney

32,000 acres total, but divided among three separate tracts of about equal size.

Only area not considered quail habitat is the bottomland hardwoods of Middle Fork Creek, but quail are found there.

96 wildlife plots - totals 300 acres.

A mixture of brown-top millet, milo, sunflower and corn were planted on approximately 75 acres. About 100 acres have been fallowed plowed and now supports a good stand of native food plants such as goatweed and partridge pea. The remaining acreage was bushhogged or disked last year and will be left fallow this year. It supports a good stand of native food plants.

Approximately 4,000 acres were burned last winter. These burns range in size from 100 acres to 1,000 acres. Commission personnel assisted the U.S. Forest Service in the burning. There are several clear cuts up to 100 acres each well dispersed over the area.

Approximately 2,000 acres have been burned this winter.

Ten thousand lespedeza bicolor plants were acquired and planted.

Catahoula

36,117 acres in size
28,000 acres quail range - variable quality
150 acres in plots
50 acres planted to brown top, and 50 acres will be planted to wheat this fall.
60 acres in openings
1,500 acres clear cut and site prepared
1,000 acres burned - Commission personnel assisted landowner

Cities Service

16,000 acres in size
4,000 acres in quail habitat of variable quality
36 plots - 18 acres planted to brown-top millet
18 acres disked not planted

Fort Polk

114,000 acres in size
105,000 acres quail range - variable quality
300 acres plots
4,000 acres burned annually - U.S. Forest Service - Commission personnel assists sometimes
10,000 acres burned annually by wild fires around firing ranges

Fort Polk Contd.

Planted strips - 4 acres - Brown top millet
Small plots - 9 acres - Brown top millet
Large plots - 165 acres - 1/2 planted to wheat last fall
1/2 brown top millet
Disked strips - 75 miles - 8 feet wide
Planted - Brown top millet
E57 Sorghum
Sunflower
Some left unplanted
3,200 acres has been burned this year.
4,900 acres has been prepared to be burned.

Georgia Pacific

28,000 acres in size
9,000 acres in quail habitat of variable quality
600 acres burned annually
43 acres in plots - 15 acres planted to brown top millet
28 acres disked - native vegetation will come in.

Jackson-Bienville

30,500 acres in size - all considered quail habitat of variable quality
3,000 acres burned annually
24 acres in food plots - 6 acres planted to brown top millet
6 acres fallow disked
12 acres planted to wheat last fall and this will remain fallow.
500 lespedeza bicolor plants were planted

Lutcher-Moore

54,269 acres in size
50,000 acres quail range - variable quality
3,000 acres clear cut and site prepared
40 acres in plots - 20 acres planted to brown top millet
 20 acres planted to wheat last fall and will
 remain fallow until this fall.
2,000 acres burned this winter.

Peason Ridge

33,400 acres in size - all quail range of variable quality
60 acres in disked strips
23 acres in plots planted to brown top millet
12,000 acres burned this winter
Military maneuvers plus firing curtailed disking and planting
in the summer of 1974.

Red Dirt

38,800 acres in size
35,000 acres quail habitat variable quality
1,200 acres clear cut and site prepared
5,000 acres burned in winter of 1973-74
300 acres in plots - 100 acres planted to brown top millet,
E57 grain sorghum, sunflower and on a
few oakie beans
175 acres bushhogged and/or disked
75 acres fallow
2,300 acres have been burned this winter and 1,100 acres have
fire lanes plowed around ready to be burned.

Loggy Bayou

2,600 acres in size
4 acres planted to brown top millet in several small plots
3 acres planted to corn and peas in several small plots
10 acres disked
7 acres bushhogged
500 acres have been burned this winter.

Union

12,000 acres in size
6,000 acres in good quail habitat
600 acres burned annually
600 acres clear cut in 1973
2,000 acres clear cut in all
33 acres in plots - 13 acres planted to brown top millet
12 acres disked
8 acres fallow.

West Bay

55,185 acres in size
20,000 acres of quail habitat
7,000 acres burned annually
2,500 acres clear cut and site prepared in 1972

At one time there were five plots located within the bay areas. This part is not considered quail habitat. Local people kept putting cows in when our plantings were at their best. Lack of cooperation from local people in this respect, plus request from landowners and considering the contribution the plots made were negligible, they were abandoned.

Sabine

12,000 acres in size
9,000 acres quail habitat - variable quality
No plots or strips maintained as such
2,000 acres clear cut and site prepared
750 acres burned annually.

